FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN, ECONOMY MINISTERS TO MEET ON DEBT ISSUE

PA071342 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Bogota -- Latin American foreign and economy ministers will meet in Cartagena on 21 and 22 June to discuss their countries' foreign debt. The Colombian Foreign Ministry has said that, because of the insistence of several Latin American countries, and as a new expression of Colombia's willingness to cooperate, Colombia has agreed to be the site for this meeting, which was proposed by the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico in a declaration on the foreign debt that they signed on 19 May of this year.

The meeting will likely be opened by President Belisario Betancur, who would again present Colombia's stance on renegotiation of the foregin debt that the country has been advocating. This stance was reiterated in a letter sent recently to the presidents of the seven developed countries that are meeting in London beginning today.

ENERGY MINISTERS MEETING SET 11-12 JUNE

FL312006 Bridgetown CANA in English 1851 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, May 31 (CANA) -- Energy ministers from oil producing states in the Caribbean and Latin America, who have been meeting in a formal group to discuss areas of mutual co-operation and assistance, will hold their third round of talks here next month, the Information Ministry said. The meeting will be held at the Trinidad Hilton on June 11 and 12. Venezuela, Mexico, Ecuador, and Trinidad and Tobago are expected to attend.

The Ministry of Information said the group would also review recent developments in the international oil market and examine their effects on Caribbean and Latin American oil exporters.

Trinidad and Tobago is the only oil exporter in the English-speaking Caribbean Community (Caricom). The twin-island state has been forging links with its oil-producing Latin American neighbours.

The last round of talks were held in Cancun, Mexico, last November.

BRIEFS

SUPPORT FOR NAMUCAR -- Amid rumors that member countries of Namucar, Caribbean Multinational Shipping Line, would withdraw in the face of charges that its ships are being used for the transshipment of weapons, the representatives of six member countries -- Mexico, Venezuela, Jamaica, Cuba, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica -- yesterday ratified their determination to remain in the organization during a meeting in Costa Rica. It was announced that Namucar will be serving new ports, including Kingston, Jamaica. [Summary] [San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 12 May 84 p 4 A PA]

BOLIVIAN-BRAZILIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE -- The Bolivian-Brazilian Chamber of Commerce has been created at the suggestion of Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo during his visit to Bolivia in February. Ramiro Cabezas has been appointed president of the chamber; Mario Hinojosa, vice president; Jose A. Ursic, Teresa Paz, Carlos Suarez, Javier Claros, and Julio Leon Prado as members; and Grover Gutierrez as treasurer. [Summary] [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 19 May 84 p 4 PY]

ALFONSIN, POLITICAL LEADERS SIGN ACCORD

PY072305 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2135 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Jun (NA) -- President Raul Alfonsin, Maria Estela Martinez de Peron, and 16 national political leaders this afternoon signed a "statement of agreements" which contains the accords reached during the recent round of political dialogue. President Alfonsin signed the document at 1823 amid the enthusiastic applause of the large audience.

The following groups have adhered to the document with "reservations": the Popular Movement Line, the Popular Federalist Force, the Progressive Democratic Party, the Popular Socialist Party, the Democratic Socialist Party, the Communist Party, the Popular Leftist Front, the Authentic Socialist Party, the Socialist Confederation, and the Socialist Alliance.

Alfonsin Speaks at Ceremony

PY072359 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2132 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Speech delivered by President Raul Alfonsin on the occasion of the signing of the Government-Political Parties' Accord at the White Hall of Government House -- live]

[Text] I will say only a few words because this is one of those times in which we can truly say that the importance of our deeds are self-evident.

As president of the Argentine people I have the duty to inform the people in general that all Argentine political leaders have expressed a worthy democratic spirit and a true understanding of the need to work within a framework of national unity during the recently held talks.

All this is synthesized in this statement that is inspired by the need for a national unity which, of course, does not imply uniformity of policies or restrictions upon disagreement. This is really in response to the spiritual need of Argentines, the need to march unitedly in these basic national ideals so that all of us may achieve the nation we deserve.

Our recent history shows that disagreements among Argentine political forces have caused distortions that have conspired against our development in the social, economic, political, cultural, and artistic fields. But I believe that today we are inaugurating a new political style in the country, and I believe that this is a commitment for the national government since it must always remember that it is the government of an entire nation and that under no circumstances can it work at the service of a minority and against the majority of Argentines. [applause]

Present here today are the leaders of political parties, two former constitutional presidents, provincial governors, and congressional representatives, all of whom represent the people. I believe that this is the proper framework since this is the beginning of a commitment that will transcend our times, a framework that through the actions we shall develop will allow us to assure, with a sense of national unity in defense of pluralist democracy, a permanent struggle to achieve the dignity of man and the greatness of the nation. Thank you very much. [applause]

PC Will Not Sign

PY071328 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2137 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Jun (DYN) -- Communist leader Fernando Nadra this afternoon officially announced that "the way it is now," tomorrow his party will not sign the document prepared by the government after the political dialogue with President Alfonsin. Nadra said that the Communist Party [PC] will only sign the joint document if "it is modified to suit the suggestions we make" regarding the repayment of the foreign debt, the human rights question, and salaries. As for salaries, Nadra added that "the idea is to hold them down and to keep people from struggling to have them raised, making raises dependent on the economic recovery that will only come about if salaries improve."

The communist leader said that instead of the government-prepared document, the PC proposes the signing of a "pact of democratic guarantees" with all the country's social sectors.

PRESIDENT TO DEPART 10 JUNE FOR VISIT TO SPAIN

PY071228 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Report from Government House]

[Excerpt] President Raul Alfonsin will leave for Spain on 10 June for a 5-day official visit, during which he will hold meetings with King Juan Carlos de Borbon and top political authorities. President Alfonsin, his wife, and the delegation that will accompany them will depart at 1730 from Ezeiza International Airport aboard a Boeing 707 of the Argentine Air Force on a direct flight to Madrid.

BOLIVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CONCLUDES 1-DAY VISIT

PY080330 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0130 GMT 8 Jun 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Jun (TELAM) -- After a 24-hour visit to Argentina, Bolivian Foreign Minister Gustavo Fernandez Saavedra today left for Brazil. Minister Saavedra denied that his country has defaulted on its foreign debt, and denied that a coup might be afoot in Bolivia.

During his stay here, the Bolivian foreign minister met with his Argentine colleague Dante Caputo and together they analyzed the political aspects of the upcoming Argentine-Bolivian meeting. Before departing from Ezeiza airport, Minister Saavedra revealed that the meeting was set for 28 June-2 July, adding it will have special political significance.

As for the Bolivian foreign debt, the Bolivian minister denied that his country is in default, and then explained that the foreign debt has three components: the one contracted with the international financial organizations, such as the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank], IDRB [International Development and Reconstruction Bank], and the Andean Development Corporation; the one contracted by the government and public institutions with other countries; and the one contracted by the government with international private banks. The minister then explained that Bolivia has decided to temporarily suspend the payment of interests and principals to the international private banks only, that is, a 30-percent portion of its total debt.

Referring to Bolivia's internal situation, Saavedra said that rumors about a coup do not exist, and that after a couple of months of difficulties with the workers, the efforts for understanding and communication yielded the expected results, namely, the agreements with the Bolivian Labor Federation that will make possible the implementation of an emergency economic program.

Lastly, using an expression coined by President Siles Zuazo, Minister Saavedra said that the saber rattling has ended in Bolivia.

PERON ADDRESSES CGT, CALLS FOR AGREEMENT

PY071528 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2327 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 6 Jun (TELAM) -- Former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron this afternoon made a strong call for national agreement to break the vicious circle of stagnation and misery. Mrs Peron spoke today before the plenum of the General Labor Confederation (CGT-Unified) in the headquarters of the Beer Workers Federation on 4072 Humahuaca Street in this capital.

She recalled that the Justicialist Party years ago began to preach for the conciliation of national interests, conceiving the idea of a national community in which all sectors defend and harmonize their legitimate interests through a dialogue aimed at the common good; for social justice based on equality; and for strength stemming from unity as the basis for our national independence so that any kind of political, cultural, economic, and ideological dependence becomes unthinkable.

She noted that for the Justicialist Party the labor movement has been, is, and will continue to be the backbone of the organization. She emphasized that this has been the basic role fulfilled by the labor movement in Argentina since Peronism was born. She went on to say that there is no reason to diminish that role.

After recalling the role played by Argentine unions in the programs advocated by General Peron, she said that since that time the unions have been independent from the state and from any other powers outside labor and that she wants the unions to continue to be independent. She praised the role played by union leadership, indicating that the path of understanding will strengthen the unity of Argentine unions by overcoming differences so that they can work exclusively for the well-being and happiness of the workers. She explained that unity does not mean consistent opinion, that freedom of expression must be guaranteed so that all sectors can make a contribution.

She said that to achieve coexistence and national greatness it is necessary that all sectors, including workers, businessmen, and the state, make a commitment to join forces to break the vicious circle of stagnation and misery.

She emphasized that the idea of a pact or agreement was put into practice by Justicialism with beneficial results for social peace and national progress. She asked all Argentines to struggle unitedly for identical ideals to achieve a more just and equitable order.

This morning Mrs Peron held a meeting with President Raul Alfonsin in the Olivos residence with the participation of Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli and members of the liaison commission. The meeting served to give the final touches to the political agreement resulting from a series of meetings held by the government with political leaders.

To Announce Reorganization

PY080255 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2321 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Jun (TELAM) -- Tomorrow, a few hours before returning to Spain, former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron will announce a major reorganization of the Justicialist Party. She will appoint a superior council and an advisory council.

The tasks that Mrs Peron will allegedly entrust to the superior council, which will hold a higher rank than the other Justicialist Party organizations, will be to maintain relations with the government, with other political parties, and with the three branches of the Peronist movement: the women's branch, the labor branch, and the political branch.

Well informed Peronist sources did not mention the possibility that this superior council may have the power to summon a national congress of the Justicialist Party in order to start the party reorganization through consultation with the rank and file.

The establishment of this tactical command has replaced the Justicialist Party's National Council that, during the absence of its leader Mrs Peron, was conducted by First Vice President Lorenzo Miguel.

The superior council will be formed by 16 members of the Liaison Commission as well as by Saul Ubaldini and Jorge Triaca, secretaries general of the Unified General Labor Confederation (CGT-Unificada).

The advisory commission will allegedly be comprised of two members of the political leadership, two governors, two national senators, and two national deputies.

The list of the persons who comprise the two Peronist bodies that Mrs Peron will establish will be announced during a press conference to be held tomorrow at the hotel where the former president is staying.

Mrs Peron's departure from this capital to Ezeiza Airport is scheduled for 1500. She is supposed to board the plane that will take her to Madrid at 1700. Sources closely related to the Justicialist leader stated that she will make no statements at the airport.

At 1000 Mrs Peron will meet with the 16 members of the Liaison Committee and later will host a reception to which Ubaldini and Triaca as well as the wives of the persons who comprise the Liaison Committee have so far been invited.

CAPUTO COMMENTS ON SMIRNOV FAMILY REQUEST

PY072200 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Excerpts] When asked today about the Smirnov family which wants to leave the Soviet Union and come to Argentina, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo referred reporters to the Foreign Ministry's communique on the case. In the first place, Caputo said, no request for asylum was made, but rather it was a petition to reside in Argentina. We are willing to grant that petition, Caputo said, though he noted that the petition has evoked no sympathy in any other Western country. He emphasized that the family was never expelled from the Argentine embassy premises.

RIGHTS TO FALKLANDS TO BE REAFFIRMED 10 JUNE

PY071523 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0410 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Jun (TELAM) -- The Argentine Interior Ministry on 6 June reminded that 10 June is a national holiday "because it is the day of reassertion of Argentine rights to the Malvinas Islands and the Antarctic sector, as set forth in Law No 20,561." The Interior Ministry communique added that in keeping with the above-mentioned law, the event should be commemorated by holding ceremonies reasserting national sovereignty in both public and private schools, Armed Forces units and offices, and courts and government agencies, and that buildings where government agencies operate must display flags and be properly lighted. The above-mentioned institutions and the citizenry at large will hold approprite ceremonies on 11 June, the next working day.

SIDE SECRETARY ANNOUNCES 'PROFOUND' CHANGES

PY061837 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1618 GMT 5 Jun 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Jun (DYN) -- Roberto Pena, head of the Secretariat for State Intelligence [SIDE], said today at Government House that "SIDE will be transformed into a real organization at the service of our republican and democratic institutions, exclusively fulfilling its specific mission of providing information to the executive branch without affecting individual rights or the private lives of citizens."

Pena met today with President Raul Alfonsin to inform him of the "profound changes" introduced in SIDE. After the meeting, Pena announced the important changes in the presidential press room. The official handed out a document indicating that "considering that any democratic changes must start with education, changes have been made in the study programs of the National Intelligence School, because these programs were based on an authoritarian system." In this regard, he indicated that "the SIDE has been adapted to our republican institutions to guarantee the inhabitants of the country the full exercise of their individual rights and a private life without interference by changing the teaching staff in order to prevent bad habits from distorting the teaching." The document also says that "plans have been made for changing current legislation to limit precisely specific operation areas of the various intelligence organizations in the country."

Another point of the document says that "when the SIDE must provide personal information in answer to legal demands, the information must only include, in an objective manner, real and legally proven facts, eliminating any subjective assessment, but also strictly complying with Article 51 of the Penal Code recently changed by Law 23,057." There are also plans to reorganize the SIDE groups in the provinces by reducing the number of agents to those strictly necessary to fulfill their task of providing information.

The document goes on to say that the bonus for hazardous work has been eliminated without reducing salaries, because it is believed that gathering and interpreting information should not be labeled hazardous. The document adds that the reorganization establishes that from now on the only SIDE agents who will carry weapons are those in charge of security and surveillance, who comprise an insignificant percentage of SIDE personnel. The document says: "In order to do away with the typically military style administration, which without justification characterized the organization, but without affecting in any way its effectiveness and without unnecessarily hurting those affected, the officers of the Armed Forces have been dismissed from the SIDE and have returned to their normal military activities."

A decision has also been made to dismiss the retired officers who were not on the permanent staff, either because they had social security benefits, were about to retire, had gone over the maximum age established for personnel, or who were in some cases under contract. The document explains that "the vacancies were in some cases filled with SIDE agents to help develop their careers and in other cases by hiring selected personnel, preferably university professionals of various specialties.

In conclusion, the SIDE secretary indicated that he expects to change within a short time the image of this organization, because it is an organization necessary for the constitutional government. In other words, it is an organization of the people and for the people.

AIR FORCE OUTLINES EFFECTS OF BUDGET CUTS

PY072015 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1340 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 7 Jun (NA) -- Members of the Air Force High Command who briefed Radical and Justicialist lawmakers at the Condor Building indicated on 6 June that their branch will be performing its duties "under minimal operating conditions" with its share of the 1984 budget.

The officers estimated that the Air Force will receive 26 percent of the $720 million earmarked to cover the expenses of the Armed Forces this year, which means that the branch will get $180 million. They added that this amount is less than what the Air Force needs to maintain normal operations -- somewhere around $250 million -- which means that "there will have to be restrictions which will affect the performance of the Air Force."

The Air Force officers made these remarks in the course of a briefing for members of the Defense Committee of the Chamber of Deputies held on 6 June. This briefing was attended by Radical Deputies Balbino Zubiri, chairman of the committee, and Guillermo Carlos Sarquis; and Justicialist Deputies Alberto Melon, Jose Luis Manzano, Mario Gugliori, Hector Basualdo, and Antonio Gino Cavallari. The briefing was conducted by Air Force Chief of Staff Major General Teodoro Waldner, Air Operations Commander Brigadier General Ernesto Crespo, and Chief of Logistics Brigadier General Arcelio Gonzales.

The member of the Air Force High Command drew for the lawmakers a "detailed picture of the situation" of the branch, especially emphasizing the availability and state of the materiel and the requirements in this area. They also spoke about the forthcoming reorganization of the Armed Forces and, according to information leaks, they said that "they do not oppose the reorganization" but "propose several adjustments which will bring the Armed Forces up to date as far as military organization goes."

CENTRAL BANK OPENS CREDIT LINE FOR CUBA

PY071517 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1247 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 7 Jun (TELAM) -- The Central Bank has reported to financial institutions the details of a credit line that the Argentine Government has opened for the National Bank of Cuba to finance exports of Argentine goods and services.

The credit will be for $200 million per annum for 1984, 1985, and 1986. It will bear a 7.5 percent interest per annum over the remaining balance and it is to be amortized in up to 21 semiannual installments. It was made clear that the credits are to be utilized in every one of the above-mentioned periods and that any leftover funds cannot be used the following year.

In the case of Cuban imports of Argentine capital goods, the financing will cover 85 percent of the goods' value. This is also applicable to the purchase of ships, citrus juice plants, and assorted spare parts. It will cover 90 percent of the purchase of technical services, research, and studies, and 80 percent of other goods.

GOVERNMENT CONCERNED OVER WAVE OF STRIKES

WA041335 Rome IPS in English 4 Jun 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, June 4 (IPS) -- Argentine government officials expressed concern today over strikes and other protest actions under way or planned by trade unions. Private oil workers and postal and telephone employees were all on strike today, and a railroad workers' strike is planned for June 6. The strikes follow the administration's decision last week to grant a 14 percent salary increase for June. Inflation rose 16 percent in May.

Energy Secretary Conrado Storani told reporters, "The government respects the right to strike, which is guaranteed by the Constitution. But there are certain things which appear suspiciously coincidental." Storani was apparently referring to a current strike by oil workers to demand salary increases, after the government agreed last week to meet their demands for better working conditions. The strike by members of the State Oil Workers' Union (SUPE) is already causing serious fuel supply problems in Buenos Aires, the capital, and other major Argentine cities. The workers have pledged to continue their strike until the government meets their salary demands, but Storani said there are no funds to grant a wage rise.

Members of the private oil workers' union (FASP) have also threatened to join the strike. The FASP workers already staged a 24-hour strike on May 15 and a 72-hour strike which ended June 1. FASP Secretary-General Jose Montani warned that the workers may now stage a 96-hour or indefinite strike.

The Argentine post and telephone workers were on staggered one-hour strikes, and telephone employees struck on three-hour shifts everywhere in Argentina except Buenos Aires.

Meanwhile, Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun and Public Works Minister Roque Carranza are trying to head off a 24-hour railroad workers' strike set for June 6, also to demand salary rises. Both ministers plan to meet with union delegates to try to seek a solution to prevent the strike, which would be the railroad workers' third in the last month.

The labor conflicts, which are disrupting daily life here, are continuing despite improvements in government relations with leaders of the powerful General Labor Confederation (CGT), which groups all the country's main trade uions.

Since new Labor Minister Juan Casella took office at the end of April, the administration has reached important agreements with top CGT leaders, in what political observers interpret as part of the government's strategy to defuse a significant source of potential opposition. But even the top union leaders have been unable to placate the rank-and-file members' demands for higher pay in some sectors.

Officials of President Raul Alfonsin's administration argue that the labor problems are inevitable even though the government is trying to increase spending power, which under the former military government (1976-83) fell to all-time lows. Argentina's severe economic crisis and high foreign debts, totalling some $43 billion, are preventing the government from granting significant wage increases, according to officials. Grinspun argues that although the salary rise this month is lower than inflation last month, the loss in spending power is compensated by larger wage increases which were granted in the first three months of 1984.

OFFICAL WARNS FOREIGN FISHING BOATS CUT CATCH

PY071543 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1155 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Excerpt] La Plata, 7 Jun (TELAM) -- Hector Traverso, under secretary for fishing, has warned that foreign fishing boats operating in Argentina waters are taking away approximately $100 million worth of fish, which is equivalent to half of Argentina's overall fish exports.

RUDE PRAVO SERIES ON ARGENTINA CITES PC'S FAVA

AU050620 [Editorial report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 25, 29, and 31 May, on page 6 in each instance, carries the first three articles in a series on Argentina by Miroslav Kubin. The series is based on the author's visit to Argentina on the occasion of this year's Festival of the Argentine Communist Press (date not given).

The first 1,700-word installment, entitled "Fresh Wind From La Plata," deals with the economic problems faced by the new government of President Alfonsin. It discusses the country's "hyperinflation" and the resulting erosion of wages, the rampant racketeering in the country, the effect of recent floods, the government's food program for the poor, and the country's foreign debt. In discussing the remedy for the country's problems proposed by the Internatonal Monetary Fund -- a reduction in people's consumption and an increase in exports -- Kubin says: "The pressure of international banks on the repayment of interest on Argentina's foreign debt of $43 billion, which is accompanied by harsh terms, is part of a plan of destabilization which will establish prerequisites for a reversal of the present process of democratization. This is in keeping with the old slogan of all enemies of progress -- the worse, the better. But why does President Alfonsin not call on all political parties and all social forces to jointly face up to these problems? This question, or, rather, call, has not yet been answered."

In concluding the first installment, Kubin describes his visit to a Communist Party meeting in Boco, the port district of Buenos Aires. He quotes party members on their fight against unemployment and against plans for a privatization of the port, for trade union elections, and for unity of the Argentine workers class.

The second 2,000-word installment of the series, entitled "The Pink House and a New Hope," deals with the reforms in Argentine politics since Raul Alfonsin's coming to the "Pink House," the residence of Argentine presidents. It discusses the reorganization of the Armed Forces aimed at curbing their political influence, the investigations of human rights violations by members of the military junta in 1976-1982, the liquidation of "black lists" with names of "progressive" intellectuals, and the return of political emigres, including Isabela Peron, from exile. However, Kubin also warns that the "specter of the possibility of a new military putsch has not completely vanished" and that "Washington's pressure, exerted through instruments such as the International Monetary Fund, could destabilize the situation in Argentina."

Kubin then quotes Athos Fava, secretary general of the Communist Party of Argentina, as saying at a "meeting with guests of the Festival of the Communist Press, which I attended": "Only a people's front, a liberation front in which a united and democratically organized workers class would play the decisive role, and a government of unity supported by this front are capable of completing the historic task. Without losing time, we must seek the establishment of such a front, made up of political parties and people's forces, with progressive currents. Our party will fully support such a front and defend, above all, people's interests."

The 2,000-word third article in the series, entitled "The Fragile Tree of Freedom," describes the "atrocities" of the military junta in the "years of terror" 1976-82, which surfaced in recent investigations of the junta's crimes and in a number of books recently published in Argentina. It also notes the "penchant of some right-wing officers for Pinochetism" and the resulting threat to Argentina's newly-won "freedom." In this connection Kubin again quotes Athos Fava's address at the aforementioned meeting with the guests of the Festival of Argentine Communist Press: "It is true that the government that emerged from the elections of 30 October is living up to its promise to restore democratic freedoms. This is an extremely important fact. Nonetheless, it is our duty to draw attention to the presence of an almost inviolable apparatus of state terrorism and to the possibility of people who are responsible for terrible crimes eluding the excessively loose net of the military tribunal and court trails. This fills our people with serious concern.... Therein lies the foundation of the present government's destabilization. That is why this foundation must be destroyed in good time. Our people emphatically demand: No more military putsches, no more coup d'etats!"

According to Fava, the government is now at a crossroads: "The government has two options. The first is to continue its hesitation, vagueness, and empty talk. That can only embolden domestic reaction and final lead also to external dependence. Democratic and sovereign decisions tallying with election promises and with the will of all people are the second option. We Communists support this path and demand, along with working and all other people, that it be unhesitatingly and unwaveringly followed."

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO VATICAN -- Buenos Aires, 23 May (TELAM) -- It was learned in Congress today that Santiago de Estrada's appointment as Argentine ambassador to the Vatican has been approved by the Senate. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1613 GMT 23 May 84 PY]

SUSPENSION OF DEBT PAYMENT MAY BE BROADENED

WA081402 Rome IPS in English 5 Jun 84

[Text] La Paz, June 5 (IPS) -- The Bolivian Government, which has suspended payments on its $1.05 billion debt to private foreign banks, may temporarily halt repayment of loans to governments and international organizations, officials said here today.

Government authorities backed up statements last night by Planning and Interim Finance Minister Ernesto Aranibar which indicated that the payment deferral may be expanded.

Aranibar told reporters that Bolivia intends to spend only 25 percent of its foreign exchange earnings this year on service charges on the debts owed to governments and international lending institutions. Bolivia's projected foreign currency income this year is about $900 million. The country owes $976.8 million in debt service charges this year, although officials are negotiating to get the payments down to $516 million. Of the $516 million, $250 million is service on loans from international banks, on which Bolivia suspended payments last week. The remaining $266 million is due on debts to governments and international organizations, and is higher than the $200 million which Bolivia has set as a maximum for payments this year. This has led analaysts here to speculate that the government may also defer payments on all the foreign debts.

But that possibility will depend on the results of Bolivia's negotiations to restructure payments. Aranibar said that no time limit has been set for the payment suspension, which he said will depend on "many things, such as the will which the private international banks demonstrate to renegotiate."

The minister reiterated Boliva's desire to reach a compromise agreement with the banks. The government stressed that willingness in a telegram yesterday to the Bank of America, informing the bank that Bolivia does not have funds to meet payments and is suspending disbursements until a "satisfactory restructuring of its public foreign debt" is reached.

The Bank of America heads the list of 128 creditor banks, most of them U.S. banks, on whose loans Bolivia deferred payments.

Bolivia's talks with the creditor banks broke off last October and have not reopened. The Bolivian Government apparently intends to return to the negotiating table as soon as a new finance minister is named, which should be this week. The Bolivian Confederation of Private Businessmen termed the payment suspension a "provocative act." Aranibar rejected that view and said that Bolivia intends to "respect its international credit commitments," taking into account its "financial limitations."

Banks Warn of 'Blockade'

WA081409 Rome IPS in English 6 Jun 84

[Text] La Paz, June 6 (IPS) -- Bolivia's private banks warned today that the government's suspension of payments on debts to international banks may result in the cut off of foreign loans to the country.

Fernando Bedoya, president of the Association of Bolivian Private Banks (ASOBAN), issued a statement asserting that the feared financial blockade could have "serious consequences for the national economy."

"Although it is a fact that Bolivia cannot meet its promised payments and must renegotiate them," he said, "we feel that the wrong road has been taken, because when there is a contract which involves two parties, neither of them can break it unilaterally." The ASOBAN president warned that the government, which suspended debt payments to private foreign banks last week, did not foresee the negative consequences of the move.

The administration of President Hernan Siles Zuazo "has only considered the overall political situation, that is, the need for an accord with the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB)," the statement said.

The banking leader said that the "sympathy of the underdeveloped countries which face similar or worse foreign debt problems" is "logical," but that the support expressed by other nations for the Bolivian suspension "is only a momentary victory which will not help confront the effect of a blockade of credit [needed] to resolve the crisis." According to Bedoya, the "negative consequences" of the debt payment postponement may "totally close off financing channels, mainly those in the Western world, which is where Bolivia has traditionally received credits for economic development."

Another repercussion is the removal of "any possibility of an accord with the International Monetary Fund, the ASOBAN president said, "and we do not like this, since [the IMF] is the bridge we must use to get resources for development which Bolivia does not have." Bedoya's statement also carried a word of warning for the foreign bank system. The international banks "must study the developing countries' situation in detail," he said. They "cannot suffocate these countries with their debts" and must be "more flexible."

Newspaper Favors Decision

PY072029 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Report on La Paz PRESENCIA 7 June editorial entitled: "Payment of the Foreign Debt"]

[Text] Some reports on the Bolivian decision to postpone the payment of the foreign debt have caused a real uproar, in some cases of unexpected scope. This has happened partly because the reports were rather exaggerated. The reports have stated that Bolivia has unilaterally decided to stop paying its debt for 4 years. What Bolivia has really decided is to renegotiate its foreign debt so that during that time we could use our resources to create new sources from which we would make the funds necessary to pay the debt. Moreover, from the human standpoint, it has been said that it is impossible to ask the Bolivian people for more sacrifice when more than 50 percent of the population is suffering malnutrition, that is to say, they do not have enough to eat.

There are two aspects that foreign creditor countries must take into account, despite the fact that they are only interested in the cold economic logic of their business, while not taking into account the human implications. First of all, it is obvious that Bolivia, like other poor countries, does not pay its debt not because it does not want to but because it cannot. If we try to pay what is due this year, we would not have enough, even taking into account all funds received for all our exports.

Not even the most ardent supporter of the IMF or of the creditor countries will deny the real force of the moral and legal principle that no one is forced to do something which is impossible. [passage indistinct]

Now we have an example of what can happen if to pay debts we have to subject our people to the pain of hunger. Therefore, we must renegotiate the payment of our debt. We want to pay, but under conditions that will not bè impossible to fulfill.

On the other hand, we are surprised by the fact that the international financial system has appeared as a giant with clay feet to a point that it has been shaken by a statement made by a country as poor and weak as Bolivia.

The fact is that we are living under a powder keg. There is too much powder for anyone not to be aware of this dangerous situation. The creditor countries must become aware of the real situation and understand that no pressure can be imposed when the situation is so abnormal. They must espeically take into account that they will take little profit from the bankruptcy of the debtors.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON DECENTRALIZATION DECREE

La Paz Groups Rejects Decree

PY071913 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Civic organizations of La Paz Department have flatly rejected the supreme decree on decentralization. This was the result of a general assembly of civic organizations held on 6 June with Jorge Carrasco Villalobos presiding. This information was disclosed by Carlos Ponce Sanjines, chairman of the administrative decentralization commission of La Paz Civic Committee, who said that the committee believes that the original agreement with the government has been distorted.

[Begin Ponce recording] Instead of implementing an effective administrative decentralization, this decree favors the central government even more by confirming acting prefects and giving them broad powers.

The organization of departmental governments and the possibility of electing them through popular vote has been totally neglected. All this clearly shows that the government does not take things seriously and that it openly mocks the desire of the Bolivian people to achieve an overall, self-reliant, and harmonious development. [end recording]

Ponce Sanjines added that 16 and 17 July have been declared days of mourning because the government has done nothing about returning to the department taxes levied on beer, other alcoholic beverages, and tobacco.

[Begin Ponce recording] In 1957 these taxes were preemptorily taken away from the departments which meant a loss of 50 million Bolivian pesos per year for La Paz Department alone. Over the years the total loss has amounted to 1 billion Bolivian pesos which could have been used to further the development of this department, and it would not be facing the present situation of extreme poverty. [end recording]

Radio Illimani on Criticism

PY080324 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] According to the first article of the Constitution, Bolivia is an independent and sovereign state with a centralized form of government that had adopted a representative democracy for its government.

Although basically this means the existence of a centralized government having more or less ample powers, the Constitution also provides for a decentralized administration that will feature departmental governments.

The rules established in Articles No 109 and No 110 of the Constitution are very specific in this regard. These articles state that these departmental governments wll be established through specific national laws. Recently, different national sectors from different regions of the country have expressed their desire to comply with the Constitution regarding the establishment of departmental governments, that is, the decentralization of the administration.

As we have already stated, the decentralization of the administration is established in our Constitution. However, if it has not been made effective yet, it is because the proper laws regulating its operation have not yet been approved. But the executive branch is not to blame for this. The only ones responsible for not passing those laws implementing the decentralization of the government are those organizations which according to the Constitution are responsible for drafting national law.

With the objective of achieving a solution that will be both fair and in keeping with the Constitution, the UDP [Democratic and Popular Unity] has called an extraordinary congress that [words indistinct] agenda will discuss the decentralization of the government and adopt specific legislation in this regard.

As a preliminary measure and in keeping with the will of the majority of the regions throughout the country, the national government has approved a decree aimed at achieving the decentralization of the country and at adopting definitive measures in this regard.

This decree should have fulfilled the expectations of those who promoted administrative decentralization and should not be the target of harsh criticism on the part of regional organizations that attribute themselves the authority to represent the different regions of the country.

It seems that there is a deliberate objective of criticizing every decision that is adopted by the government. But this negative attitude adopted by some national sectors can only aim to destabilize the democratic process.

By including in the congressional agenda the administrative decentralization of the government, and by approving the decree establishing regulations for the operation of departmental governments, the central government has fully complied with regional expectations in this regard. But apparently, the hidden intentions of the friends of the different regions of the country go beyond what is publicly stated. This entails a serious risk not only for the stability of the democratic process but also for the integrity of the fatherland.

It must be clearly established that a centralized administration is that in which the authority of a central government exercises a monopoly over government functions.

If there are certain persons or institutions that carry out government duties, they do so in keeping with their capacity as delegates or as organizations representing the central government.

A given government is decentralized when some regions, such as departments or municipalities, are entrusted with some powers. In a decentralized administration, it is the government that exercises central power, keeping for itself the right of supremacy over the structure and functioning of decentralized authorities.

This classical view of the essence and sovereignty of the state cannot be questioned without undermining the integrity of the government, that is, without risking the disintegration of the government as a supreme political body.

It is this risk that should make us seriously reflect on the meaning and the extent of the decentralization that is being promoted. On one hand, the government intends to implement a decentralization process without undermining the integrity of the nation. While on the other, by demanding that the central government give up some of the political power that rightfully belongs to it, our nation's integrity is being under undermined.

The administrative decentralization, something which has been long sought by the regions making up Bolivia, must be implemented but while safeguarding our national integrity, otherwise we would be acting against the survival of the nation as an independent and sovereign body.

SILES REVERSES DECISION ON L.A. OLYMPICS

PY080225 Paris AFP in Spanish 2246 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] La Paz, 7 Jun (AFP) -- Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo, reversing a previous decision, here today decided to authorize a delegation of Bolivian athletes and officials to travel to Los Angeles to take part in the Olympic games. This decision denies rumors stating that the government decision was due to pressure being exerted by the Bolivian Communist Party so that the country would join the Soviet boycott of the Olympics.

Julio Barragan, secretary for sports and youth affairs, explained that the government's prior decision was prompted by the lack of economic funds to cover the cost of the athletes' trip and due to the fact that they did not meet the requirements established by the International Olympic Committee.

However, German Peters, president of the Bolivian Olympic Committee (COB), pointed out that the government will not spend a cent in this trip since the expenses will be fully covered by the International Olympic Committee.

DEBT MORATORIUM CONTINUES TO BE POSSIBILITY

PY062055 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 3 Jun 84 p 10

[By Luiz Claudio Pinheiro]

[Text] The unilateral declaration of a foreign debt moratorium continues to be a possibility rejected by economic authorities but, with the increase of international interest rates and its adverse effects on Brazil and other debtor countries, the question is slowly ceasing to be taboo. Experts of the government's economic area are already admitting that countries like Mexico, which at one time suspended its foreign payments and built up monetary reserves to face up to the situation, and Argentina, which is struggling to bend the agreement with the IMF in order to serve the interests of its national sovereignty, can end up obtaining better results in their foreign negotiations than Brazil, which from the start strictly followed the dictates of the IMF.

The chief economic adviser of the Finance Ministry, Edesio Ferreira Fernandes, although opposed to a moratorium, does not discard the possibility if the situation gets worse. According to him, declaring a moratorium is an act of great responsibility and, therefore, only the president could do it after calling a plebiscite whereby the entire society would be committed to the decision and its consequences. Fernandes says that such a plebiscite could be the "last card" played by the government if the negotiations do not yield the desired results. In other words, this would be the ultimate instrument of pressure. But he advises: "I would vote against a moratorium."

To resist the idea, the government alleges the sacrifices which will be imposed on the nation, such as, crisis in the export sector, closing of industries, rationing of oil and fertilizers, and giving absolute priority to agriculture to supply the internal market. But speaking off the record, government officials admit that it will be a positive thing if the opposition starts beating the drum for a moratorium. "This will scare the people outside and it will strengthen our position at the negotiation table," a high-placed source said.

What would be the prerequisites for an eventual moratorium declaration? Of course, before anything else, that will depend on the government's political decision, which will only be made as a last resort.

From the opposition and society in general, the government would certainly have the internal support that would be necessary to declare a moratorium. After all, Planalto Palace disfavors a moratorium for other reasons, not for the lack of internal support. However, it can hardly be expected that the moratorium will be enacted without an intense popular mobilization favoring it. The cases of Bolivia and the Dominican Republic should be recalled. These are two Latin American countries which recently broke off with the IMF and suspended the servicing of their foreign debt, and in both cases the political decision came in the wake of broad popular protest mobilizations.

Now the hypothesis that Brazil will again get behind in the payment of its foreign obligations without a formal moratorium declaration is much more likely, according to experts of the government's economic area.

Brazil, like other Latin American debtor countries, will have two options if the international interest rates continue to climb, approaching the dangerous level of 15 percent. Either it will agree with the formula of adding the interests to the debt principals as suggested by the chairman of the Federal Reserve, Paul Volcker, or it once again fall behind in the servicing of the foreign debt, thus incurring "default," that is, a nonformalized moratorium.

That is the opinion prevailing among the experts of the government's economic area. According to them, debtor countries which are already adhering to rigid internal programs of "economic adjustment" will not be able to withstand the predictable upswing of international interest rates. Economist Jose Augusto Savazini, one of Planning Minister Delfim Netto principal advisers, says that in fact the possibility of Latin American countries as a bloc defaulting is very great if the rise of interest rates continues.

Likewise, Deputy Pratini de Moraes (PDS from Rio Grande do Sul State), former industry and commerce minister, can foresee Latin American countries defaulting one after the other in a chain reaction. According to Pratini de Moraes, given the world market's current circumstances and the U.S. electoral campaign, everything indicates that interest rates will continue to go up and the prime rate will reach 15 percent in a few months.

According to Edesio Fernandes, the concern over rising interest rates was precisely the reason that prompted Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, and Colombia to sign a joint protest note. Fernandes says that the joint note is an effort to prevent the escalation of interest rates by pressuring the U.S. Government to cut back its public deficit which is the main cause for that escalation. For the first time, Fernandes notes, the foreign debt question was focused on from a political angle by a group of debtor countries, thus indicating that, in view of the worsening situation, those countries are inclined to harden their positions.

Fernandes adds that there is no conflict over this question between the government's economic and diplomatic areas. He recalls that a few months ago, Finance Minister Ernane Galveas, protesting against the commercial protectionism of rich countries and the escalation of interest rates, warned that "the United States is playing with fire." Therefore, Fernandes concludes that the economic area's position is the same as the Itamaraty position: That it is urgent and indispensable to change the world economic order. He also said that the statement by Minister Galveas is in line with the text of the note signed by the four Latin American countries.

In the opinion of Fernandes, the meeting which the Latin American foreign ministers will hold in 2 weeks will be of great importance. He even believes that "a meeting of the presidents of those countries should follow."

To that end, however, the governments of those countries will need broad internal support. For instance, how could Brazil negotiate from a position of strength if the government does not have the backing of the opposition and society in general, but only the support of the Social Democratic Party? Most of the opposition defends the idea of a moratorium and would like to see Planalto Palace adopt much harder positions. But even if the government's first steps in that direction are timid ones, the opposition will still endorse them. Therefore, if the government moves toward a hardening of positions and is willing to allow the opposition's effective participation in national decisionmaking, it will find no difficulties in substantially broadening its internal support, a condition necessary for an overall renegotiation of the foreign debt if the possibility arises.

The formula of interest capitalization does not appeal to opposition members in the economic area. Senator Roberto Saturnino (Democratic Labor Party from Rio de Janeiro) and Deputy Helio Duque (Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party of Parana), for instance, believe that such a formula (whereby the payment of overdue interests will be postponed in accordance with the exporting capability of each debtor country, but those portions of interests which are again not paid in a timely way will be capitalized, that is, they will be added to the debt principal and will draw new interests) will only expand the foreign debt even more in a short time. This formula of capitalization of unpaid interests will only transfer current problems to the future. However, these congressmen would be inclined to support the government should it decide to completely suspend the payment of interests in order to initiate new negotiations from a position of strength. According to experts, Brazil, in the next phase of its foreign debt renegotiation that will start in August, is in the position of obtaining some advantages in the terms of repayment, especially regarding reduction of the spreads (the added risk charges); and it also has the possibility of accepting the capitalization of part of the interests, thus being able to stretch out the payback period. But if interest rates climb to 15 percent, those advantages will not be sufficient.

PDS CANDIDATES SEEK SUPPORT OF OPPOSITION

PY071541 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portugese 6 Jun 84 p 1

[Text] Three PDS [Social Democratic Party] candidates for president yesterday promised to make a joint effort in order to obtain the support of the majority of those who oppose President Figueiredo's amendment which will also permit the necessary political maneuvering for modifying the law that regulates the Electoral College and party convention. During several meetings, Aureliano Chaves, Marco Maciel, and Mario Andreazza disucssed this joint effort, forseeing that a group linked to another PDS candidate -- Paulo Maluf -- will not accept a change in the rules of the succession game. They believe that this argument should be strong enough to soften the opposition.

PDS ELECTION IN JULY TO NOMINATE CANDIDATE

PY071430 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Excerpts] A formula has been devised within the PDS [Social Democratic Party] to prevent Deputy Paulo Maluf's golden dream of becoming President Figueiredo's successor from coming true. This idea has already been approved by the president of the Republic and it is to be implemented in July by holding on a Sunday, a secret nationwide election, which is to be controlled by the electoral board, to nominate a single PDS candidate. This election will mobilize councilmen, mayors, deputy mayors, municipal directors, deputies, state leaders, governors, federal deputies, senators and national leaders of the PDS. Between 80,000 and 100,000 PDS members will be called to vote.

Based on their experience, PDS congressmen believe that the preferred nominee will be Aureliano Chaves or Mario Andreazza. Senator Jose Sarney has said that the proposal for holding a primary has already been approved by President Figueiredo. Another presidential hopeful, Vice President Aureliano Chaves, said that the holding of a primary is good for both the party and the country. The campaign coordinator of presidential hopeful Paulo Maluf [name indistinct] said that the former Sao Paulo governor will participate in the primary and that Maluf will not drop his candidacy even if he is voted down in the primary to be held in July.

PDS CONVENTION TO NEGATIVELY AFFECT MALUF

PY080250 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 8 Jun 84

[Excerpt] The national president of the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party has stated that the Social Democratic Party [PDS] has shot a deadly bullet against PDS presidential hopeful Paulo Maluf. Ulysses Guimaraes noted that if the bullet did not reach the heart, the prey may revive. He said that the PDS leadership's initiative [a party primary] is very cunning and ingenious. He added that this proves that any PDS measure that surpasses the limits of the party convention will have a negative effect on the candidacy of former Sao Paulo Governor Paulo Maluf.

TRADE SURPLUS HITS RECORD HIGH OF $1.4 BILLION

WA081400 Rome IPS in English 6 Jun 84

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, June 6 (IPS) -- Brazil's trade surplus hit a record high in May of $1.14 billion, with exports of $2.34 billion, according to the Central Bank's foreign trade department, CACEX.

The May figures bring Brazil's trade surplus in the first five months of 1984 to $4.66 billion, more than half the 1984 goal of $9 billion, the mark Brazil set with the International Monetary Fund in talks late last year.

This year is the first time in history that Brazil's monthly trade surpluses have hit the $1 billion mark.

In March Brazil exported $2.06 billion, with a surplus of $1.2 billion. In April exports totalled $2.13 billion, for a surplus of $1.06 billion.

CACEX Director Carlos Viacava, who reported the May figures yesterday, noted that the export sector is doing extremely well, with sales of manufactured products running 40 percent higher this year than in 1983.

If industrial exports remain at current levels, Brazil can easily top the IMF trade surplus goal, according to Viacava, since the country's farm product exports will start increasing this month.

Soy exports have been down in recent months and are now expected to improve. International prices for soy derivatives, cacao, orange juice and chicken, some of Brazil's main exports, are on the rise.

Viacava predicted that Brazil's total exports will reach $25 billion this year, topping projections of $24 billion, while imports will total only about $15 billion.

The government intends to soften the current tariff restrictions on imports.

Marcus Pratini de Morais, former trade and industry minister and now a legislator of the ruling Social Democractic Party (PDS) said in an radio interview here that the restrictions on imports should be lifted because they are aggravating inflation.

The restrictions, aimed at increasing the trade surplus, are pushing up the cost of living, he said, and inflation is already running at 235 percent annually.

SHOTS FIRED AT SAO PAULO OFFICIAL'S HOME

PY041807 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] Shots were fired at the home of the chief of the Military Household of Sao Paulo State. Three unidentified individuals opened fire and hit a soldier standing guard in front of the home of Colonel (Ubirajara Almeida Cartaxo) early yesterday morning.

The soldier, who was admitted to the Paulistania hospital, reported that the shots were fired by three unidentified individuals who were riding a [words indstinct]. He saw the [words indistinct] stop near the colonel's home located on Professor Santiago Dantas Street, Morumbi district.

The military policeman, Jai [last name indistinct], approached the place, where he was shot, and the attackers fled before the soldier had a chance to see the license plates.

RIO DE JANEIRO MILITARY POLICE REINFORCED

PY021455 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] Rio de Janeiro Governor Leonel Brizola has ordered that the Military Police force be increased by 5,000 and that surveillance be intensified in order to discourage criminal actions in Rio de Janeiro.

PT CONVENTION ELECTS EXECUTIVE BOARD, PRESIDENT

PY041637 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Excerpt] During the PT [Workers Party] national convention held in Brasilia over the past weekend, the new executive board was elected and Luiz Inacio (Lula) da Silva was declared party president.

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES PARTIES BILL, OTHER TOPICS

PY071535 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 5 Jun 84 p A 1, A 12

[Text] Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet has announced that on 4 June he sent the draft bill on political parties, prepared by the Council of State and reviewed by the executive branch, to the government junta. Pinochet indicated that the number of signatures necessary to register a party has been increased from 20,000 to 150,000.

The chief executive met with journalists accredited to Government House with whom he discussed the current situation of the country. Pinochet downplayed the criticisms caused by the decision to increase the number of signatures necessary to register a party by saying that "the idea behind this increase is to prevent the proliferation of parties which lack representation."

In response to request for his opinion on the petition which former Interior Minister and leader of the Independent Democratic Union (UDI) Sergio Fernandez will submit to the constitutional court shortly asking that the MDP [Democratic and Popular Movement] be declared unconsitutional, Pinochet said: "I think that it is a logical request and should have been submitted long ago." He added that Article 8 of the Constitution contains provisions which support this type of petition, emphasizing that the government had made no move, waiting for the citizenry to exercise their constitutional rights.

Speaking about the political opening launched by the government, the chief executive said that "it has been distorted by the very same groups which so harmed the country in the past," adding that in his opinion the actions of these groups "twisted the intentions of the government." President Pinochet went on to say that the political opening was a part of government plans and not the result of pressure of any kind. He added, however, that "I believed that the nation was ready and that the time for the opening had come." He said that "in any case, we must go on, but carefully. The constitutional political timetable will be strictly followed. "Answering another question, he stated that the leading actors of this opening (the traditional political parties) are "an orchestra in which each musician plays his own tune."

On the draft constitutional amendment which the executive branch sent to the government junta in March this year empowering the president of the nation to call plebiscites on issues of national significance, Pinochet said that "this draft amendment will not be pulled out of the government junta," and explained that "it will stay there until the problems it poses from the point of view of the Constitution are solved."

On government-church relations, President Pinochet said that they are "normal and on the whole good," adding that "Monsignor Fresno is a pastor, a bishop for whom I have great respect." Pinochet reiterated, however, that he believes that the church should restrict its actions to spiritual matters.

On Chilean-Argentine relations, he said that the mediation is doing well, while relations with the United States, Bolivia, and Peru are "normal."

Concerning the criticisms which the opposition has been hurling at the economic policy, the president said that "the free market system is good, although more control may be required." He explained that "governments have to choose between state control and freedom. State control tells the private businessmen what they have to do down to the last detail while the free market system merely lays down the rules and gives them freedom of action."

In response to a question, General Pinochet said that "the government is stronger than ever ," and made it clear that this is the opinion of foreign political observers who have also said that "the opposition has destroyed itself. It has committed suicide because it failed to properly interpret the political opening which the government had launched."

Pinochet expressed support for a nationalist continuity, that is, "love for the fatherland and its true values because the Chilean man is intrinsically nationalist and I believe that this attitude has always had many supporters in Chile."

Asked about the alleged disagreement between Finance Minister Luis Escobar and government junta member Admiral Jose Toribio Merino in connection with a draft bill for a tax on luxury goods, Pinochet said that the draft bill poses some difficulties because according to IMF regulations foreign luxury goods cannot be selectively taxed without levying a similar tax on national goods. "Under these conditions no one benefits from this tax," Pinochet said.

He went on to talk about the "National Solidarity Campaign for Jobs" which he launched during his recent visit to Calama. He announced that "some offers have been received and the industries and business concerns must make an effort to hire more people." He added that some 600,000 workers are currently unemployed and any attempt to raise salaries will worsen the situation. "Once the unemployment problem is resolved we can start thinking about this other problem," Pinochet said.

As to the austerity campaign for public administration, the chief executive explained that the idea is to cut down on unnecessary expenditures, adding that the ministries will have to save on per diem, general expenses, overtime, official trips abroad and other items. He indicated that these savings will help create new jobs.

INTERIOR MINISTRY FILES SUIT AGAINST LAVANDEROS

PY080150 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 5 Jun 84 p C 2

[Text] A suit for slander has been filed against political leader Jorge Lavanderos Llanes. This was revealed by the Interior Ministry, which explained that the suit was filed with the Sixth Criminal Court of Santiago by Army Colonel Jose Jaime Fernandez Darrigrandi Marquez.

The suit against Jorge Lavanderos is for slander in an interview published in ANALISIS magazine. The suit also involves Juan Pablo Cardenas Squella and Irene Geiss, director and reporter, respectively, of the mentioned magazine.

It was reported that the problem began with charges made against Col Darrigrandi by former Senator Jorge Lavanderos in an interview with Irene Geiss, which was published in issue No 18 of ANALISIS magazine. It was said that "considering the characteristics of the problem, the defense of Col Darrigrandi Marquez had been assumed by lawyers of the Interior Ministry." In the interview printed in the opposition magazine, Lavanderos had said that Col Darrigrandi had led the group which beat him up.

80 SOVIET, OTHER 'FISHING' BOATS OFF COAST

PY071558 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 3 Jun 84 pp 11, 12

[Excerpts] No less than 80 Soviet, Cuban, and Polish "fishing" ships are operating monthly off the Chilean coast (Mocha and Chiloe Islands). This is a little more than the 40 ships that were operating in 1981. This is the content of a complete official document to which EL MERCURIO has had exclusive access. The report not only refers to the fishing activities carried out by these ships, but also to the support activities for subversive movements in nations on the Pacific coast, or strategic spying.

One of our informants said that "the activities of the fishing boats in the southeast region of the Pacific Ocean is increasing yearly, thus increasing the possibilities of compromising the security of coastal nations by supporting subversive movements." He added: "It is very easy for a fishing boat to land agents and arms in a cove and return to its activities the following morning. This has happened in several parts of the world."

"In addition to meddling in domestic affairs of Latin American nations, he added, the Soviet research ships are probably engaged in research and spying activities because they operate in areas known as having few fishing grounds. A possible explanation would be that they are engaged in submarine research, measurement of radio waves and sound propagation, and use of monitoring equipment."

The report reveals that during the past few days the average monthly number of fishing boats off the Chilean coast -- almost bordering the exclusive economic zone of our country -- totals 80. They are Soviet, Cuban, and Polish ships. They catch mainly hake and krill. This year they have concentrated their activities in areas between the islands of Mocha and Chiloe. According to the report, the fleet is made up of fishing boats, petroleum supply tankers, factory ships, and rescue and refrigeration ships. Some of these ships are even fitted with a helicopter flight deck.

A tentative list of fishing boats prepared this year is as follows:

Soviet Union: Pasvalis, Retavas, Russkoye Pole, Sokolov, Viyina, Vulgobalt, XXVI Syezd KPSS, Yefim Krivosheyev, Zvezda Sevastopolya, Sovetskaya Rodina, Milogradovo, Debreisen, Kropotkin, Neftegorsk, Okhanfei, Zhalgiris, Granittnyy Bereg, Ivan Shishkin, Karl Libknekht, Khudozhnik Vrubel, Krymskiye Gory, Primorskiy Bereg, Tambov, Tulsk, XXV Syezd KPSS, Sovetskaya Ukraina, Aleksandr Torisev, Aleksey Stakhanov, Andrus Yokhani, Aukshaytya, Bagarevo, Bayeyev, Baykovsk, Belomore, Borisov, Chechersk, Grigory Kovtun, Hayduk, Tielmen, Ivan Simakov, Kapitan Ardeyev, Koyda, Leonid Novospasskiy, Leonid Yelkin, Lotos, Mikhail Kvassnikov, Novoasbesi, Novobataysk, Novobiryusinskiy, Novoladuzhskiy, Novomaltinsk, Novogorsk, and Pamir.

Cuba: Golfo de Guacanayabo, Rio los Palacios, Rio Mayabeque, Rio Yateras, and Las Guasimas.

Poland: Pollux, Aquarius, Aquila, Bonito, Grinwal, Otol, and Parma.

It has been established that the control and command system of the fishing fleet has characteristics which facilitate the use of fishing boats by military authorities. Some of the fishing boats and oil supply tankers participate in maneuvers carried out by the Soviet Navy.

Due to the complete report, an unofficial spokesman of the Chilean Navy was consulted on this matter. He said that the Chilean Navy is alert, that is is zealously protecting the maritime territorial borders, especially the exclusive economic zone, and the national defense all along the lengthy Chilean coast. He categorically stated that naval and Air Force units that belong to each of the Armed Forces branches are continuously on the alert. "The Armed Forces impose strict control over the sovereignty of the fatherland."

URUGUAYAN MINISTER ON POLITICAL, ECONOMIC ISSUES

PY071332 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0039 GMT 7 Jun 84

[By Albino Mallo]

[Text] Santiago, 6 Jun (EFE) -- Uruguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Maeso said here today that the Uruguayan Government hopes to resume the dialogue with political parties and that it is confident "that the dialogue has been only temporarily suspended." Beginning an official 3-day visit to Chile, Maeso underlined the historic and friendly ties that link the two countries, and deplored that economic relations have been distorted by "the crisis that has affected the world, particularly Latin America."

Maeso expressed hope that during the talks he will hold with the Chilean foreign and trade ministers "solutions may be found to promote trade." Maeso said that economic and political problems are closely related, because "the deterioration of the economy has evidently had" sociopolitical consequences. Despite those problems, he said, the restoration of Uruguayan democracy is under way, with "internal party elections" and with "a draft document that has been handed over to the leaders of the different parties."

Concerning Blanco Party leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, Maeso said that "according to the law," Ferreira is a "banned citizen, that is, he cannot engage in political activities." The Uruguayan visitor added that if Ferreira returns to Uruguay, he will be put at the disposal of "the competent authorities" because he is wanted by the courts.

Carlos Maeso said that "the so-called press censorship, in general terms, does not exist," explaining that the government acts "only in particular cases when freedom of information has been severely infringed on by opinions that may negatively affect the atmosphere of accord and peace that is being pursued."

Concerning the ban on demonstrations, Maeso said that its only objective is "to prevent the distortion of facts," and that "the government's main concern is strengthening an atmosphere of peace to favor dialogue." The Uruguayan foreign minister stressed that one of the main points of agreement between the two countries was their stand in connection with the nonintervention principle, "which has been weakened and which we should revitalize."

Maeso refused to talk about the Argentine-Chilean border dispute over the Beagle Channel out of respect for the nonintervention principle. He stressed, however, that Uruguay supports Pope John Paul II "because of his love for peace, the peace that we want for all Latin America." Maeso added that he was pleased with the statements by the Chilean and Argentine foreign ministers that a solution would be found in the near future. Asked by EFE whether Uruguay would want Chile and Argentina to sign the treaty in its territory, Minister Maeso replied that "the essential thing is that it should be signed, not where it may be signed."

FPMR GROUP SEIZES RADIO MINERIA, AIRS COMMUNIQUE

PY080310 Paris AFP in Spanish 0237 GMT 8 Jun 84

[Text] Santiago, 7 Jun (AFP) -- An armed commando group -- made up of two men and a woman -- of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) tonight stormed into Radio Mineria and forced its personnel to broadcast a recorded communique against the military government of President Augusto Pinochet. An anonymous female voice alerted the media about this new action of FPMR members who, on 29 May, had also stormed into the offices of AFP and AP and forced their journalists to disseminate a communique at gunpoint.

INCIDENTS IN ARICA AS PINOCHET BEGINS VISIT

PY072330 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] [In progress]... was attacked last night by three unidentified persons while he was on his way home. Jorge Chameng [regional president of the Democratic Alliance] who is 65 years old, is still in the local hospital's intensive care unit. According to the diagnosis, Chameng is suffering from accute closure of the (?trachea) and serious multiple injuries to (?the lungs).

According to Chameng, he was attacked by a group of persons who got out of a car on a downtown street and took advantage of a blackout that at the time was affecting a large sector of the city. He said he was kicked and beaten with chains. Eyewitnesses reported that the unidentified persons were young and strong but that they fled when neighbors started to gather to see what was happening.

Moreover, the (Juan Noe) hospital also reported that it treated other injured persons who reported they were the victims of physical abuse on the part of military forces that with tanks, armored cars, and heavy weaponry occupied several sectors of the city where people started to beat pans.

[Paris AFP in Spanish at 1429 GMT on 7 June reported that "Chilean President Augusto Pinochet today started a visit to the City of Arica."]

PDC Repudiates Attack

PY080145 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] has repudiated the cowardly attack perpetrated against Jorge Chameng, who is president of the PDC and the Democratic Alliance [AD] in Arica. In an official statement, the PDC charges that three unidentified persons carrying sharp weapons beat Chameng until he suffered a ceberal concussion, and that at present he is in the intensive care unit of a hospital in Arica.

The attack against Chameng is another in a series of attacks [against opposition personalities], such as the killing of Tucapel Jimenez, the attack against Jorge Lavanderos the bombs and slanderous pamphlets against Gabriel Valdes, and attacks against other PDC leaders. No attacks or other crimes have been resolved when the victims were members of the opposition.

The PDC notes: We hold the interior minister responsible for these actions since his first duty is to safeguard public order, and we note his inability to resolve these incidents. The PDC also expresses its solidarity with Chameng and his relatives.

ATTACKS REPORTED IN CONCEPCION, TALCAHUANO

PY072023 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Police in the 8th Region are investigating two attacks that took place last night in Concepcion and Talcahuano. The Carabineros Association building in Concepcion was the target of a bomb attack that shattered its windows and those of neighboring buildings. It was reported that the bomb was (?detonated) when 15 officials and a [word indistinct] were at work in the place. The second attack took place in Talcahuano when unidentified individuals sabotaged the powerlines in Laguna Redonda and blacked out a large district.

CNI DENIES RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEATH OF WOMAN

WA051315 Rome IPS in English 5 Jun 84

[Text] Santiago, June 5 (IPS) -- Chile's secret police today denied responsibility for a May 18 explosion that killed a woman. The military government's secret police, the National Information Center (CNI), was responding to a charge yesterday by the victim's husband, who said that the CNI kidnapped and tortured him and his wife and then killed her. Hector Munoz Morales, 30, made the charges at a press conference called yesterday by the Santiago archbishop's vicar of solidarity, Ignacio Gonzalez, who heads the church's human rights office.

The CNI said in a statement that the press conference was an attempt by the Catholic Church to smear the CNI, and termed Munoz' statements "absolutely false." The couple "was not detained by CNI personnel," the statement said.

Gonzalez denied reports in the progovernment press that Munoz' wife, 29-year-old Maria Loreto Castillo, died when a bomb she intended to place in a public electric power station exploded. Munoz said that a group of armed men in civilian dress and wearing yellow armabands held machine guns on him and his wife, bound his eyes, and then took the two to different places. He said that the last time he saw his wife was at the foot of a hill in the eastern residential sector of Santiago, and the captors were beating her on the head and face with a piece of iron. At the press conference, Munoz had a wound on his neck and swollen eyes, which he said were the results of beatings by CNI agents. He told reporters that the agents accused him of placing bombs in Santiago's underground railway.

The Santiago attorney general opened an investigation into Loreto Castillo's death, and Munoz was called to testify yesterday afternoon and repeat the report he gave at the press conference.

Gonzalez termed the case "appalling" and said that Munoz is under the Catholic Church's protection.

The CNI statement charged that Gonzalez, a Spanish priest, is "taking advantage of hypotheses, as he has done on previous occasions" to malign the secret police. The press conference "was clearly aimed, once again, at slandering the security services, favoring the interests of extremist groups." The CNI pledged to "remain faithful to its commitment to combat terrorism in any of its forms, to help maintain the country's peace and domestic security."

The CNI has frequently been accused of illegally detaining, torturing, and murdering citizens, and Catholic and human rights organizations have demanded that the military government disband the agency.

1,003 DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN 1 MONTH

PA070630 Paris AFP in Spanish 0243 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] Bogota, 5 Jun (AFP) -- A total of 1,003 alleged drug traffickers were arrested during the 1st month of the state of siege, according to information revealed by military sources.

Armed Forces Commander General Miguel Vega Uribe, quoted by Emisoras CARACOL Network, pointed out that the arrested include four who are being requested by the U.S. Government, and whose extradition to that country is now being processed. He also said that, only three appeals have been filed so far; three of those arrested have been sentenced to prison for illegal possession of weapons.

The state of siege was decreed on 1 May after Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla was murdered by paid assassins who had been sent by leaders of the drug trafficking business; under the state of siege military courts handle all crimes related to drug trafficking. Vega Uribe also said that the authorities have confiscated 416 weapons, 51,635 rounds of ammunition, 6 motorcycles, 53 automobiles, and 38 airplanes in operations carried out against drug traffickers.

RICARDO FRANCO REBEL GROUP ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

PA071847 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 6 Jun 84 p A9

[Text] In a bulletin sent to the EL TIEMPO offices, the Ricardo Franco group, a dissident faction of the FARC-EP [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army] say the following:

"In response to the campaign to discredit and insult our organization carried out by the Communist Party of Colombia [PCC] and Mr Manuel Marulanda, we would like to issue a communique stating the points on which we differ, and also stating that:

1. It is not true that the PCC, the Central Committee, nor the general staff of the FARC-EP is ignorant of our existence, as is proven in the document that we have sent to you, and which appeared in the VOZ PROLETARIA publications during the month of April.

2. We reject the manner in which the Colombian people will continue to be deceived with accusations against our organization for any incidents against peace, from now on.

3. It is not true that our organization has kidnapped Dr Mosquera's brother, since the victim's family has said that it was to the FARC-EP that they paid the ransom.

4. We have not accepted the truce because the Colombian people were not taken into account in its adoption.

5. We will continue to be the standard-bearers of the revolutionary struggle, and we will not surrender it to Betancur's populism.

6. We will continue to lay claim to Ricardo Franco's name, along with militants who want the party to be combative and strive for a fatherland that will be new, free, and democratic.

[Signed] Ricardo Franco Urban Front

NEW ARMY COMMANDER SEEKS RESPONSE TO PROPOSAL

PY080045 Montevideo Radio El Espectador in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Excerpts] The Armed Forces have reiterated that they expect an answer from the political parties to the draft proposal delivered on 1 May. Upon taking over as the new commander of the Army, Lieutenant General Hugo Medina said the answer should be sincere and in simple language.

He also said the Armed Forces will continue to protect and strengthen democracy and that their objective is the holding of elections and the transfer of power on 1 March 1985. Lieutenant General Hugo Medina addressed the members of the Army from the Army Headquarters saying that he wants a nation sure of its Army and an Army sure of its mission, a professional and apolitical Army.

General Medina went on to say that Uruguay is living in a situation of uncertainty and confrontations and that there are some sectors who are directing their actions toward other objectives.

[Begin Medina recording] For the Army there is only one way to become or not to become involved in any significant situation in the life of the nation, thats, to act with dignity, to show respect and be respected, to preserve with pride [words indistinct] the achievements made, and to continue to fulfill its obligations.

Now Uruguay is experiencing moments of expectation within a framework of uncertainty and confrontations involving some sectors who are putting aside the high interests of the nation and directing their actions toward other objectives which lack significance for the greatness of the nation as demanded by the current political circumstances. These sectors are taking advantage of situations derived from the economic crisis by trying to create a dangerous environment of division, disorder, and commotion. These actions are serious because they are obstructing the recovery of the country. By carrying out these actions these sectors are showing disdain for the great national interests because they are inspired exclusively by selfish, personal desires. [end recording]

The new Army commander also said that the Armed Forces have to watch over the functioning of the democratic institutions which will depend a great deal on the reforms introduced by the Constitution.

[Begin Medina recording] The Uruguayan Armed Forces must also preserve the recovered freedom and strengthen the democratic institutions. An essential part of this task involves the constitutional reforms to be established in accordance with the approval of the people. These reforms will undoubtedly take into consideration the experience gathered during the years of struggle against subversion and sedition.

In the near future the political parties will contribute to the orderly exercise of this strengthened democracy and we hope that the country will not return to events such as those that in the past have seriously threatened national values. We do not want any more terrorism, political-administrative chaos, nor de facto governments.

Special mention should be made of the ever-increasing words of praise for those persons who opportunely and without hesitation kidnapped and murdered citizens of various social levels who interfered with their attempts to take power by force. Are some perhaps, who, by constantly referring to the existence of hostages, seeking to make well-known lies appear as truth? Are some seeking to deceive the youths who did not experience those events? Are some seeking alliances that will protect them from eventual terrorist outbreaks? Are some seeking to provoke the reactions of the Armed Forces? All these attempts will be useless since the murderers and kidnappers will continue to be murderers and kidnappers and they will be punished for their crimes. [end recording]

General Medina then went on to point out that the Armed Forces will continue to safeguard and strengthen democracy within the guidelines established in 1976.

[Begin Medina recording] We will continue to safeguard and strengthen democracy as much as necessary by keeping a close watch on the actions carried out by civilians that have given and continue to give, together with the Armed Forces, the best of themselves during such difficult years for the Republic. We will continue to follow the line that has been clearly established by a series of concrete political events.

In 1976 the Armed Forces did not back the president-elect's proposal to do away with political parties. In 1980 a draft constitution was subjected to a plebiscite that for better or worse was designed to consolidate democracy, respecting the adverse results of the ballot boxes. In 1982 the adequate framework for internal elections, which developed normally, was established. In 1983 we sought, and in 1984 we continue to seek, to reach the necessary prior agreements with the political parties in order to fulfill the goal of holding elections in November and the transferring of political power on 1 March 1985, and to be able to fulfill the transition phases that are provided for in the proposal submitted to the political parties. [end recording]

In referring to the proposal submitted by the Armed Forces on 1 May to the political parties, Commander Medina indirectly criticized the National Party for rejecting the draft bill and termed as positive the reaction of the other parties.

[Begin Medina recording] The Armed Forces have submitted a clear and precise working document to the Uruguayan politicians. The immediate reaction of one sector has been surprisingly negative and the fact that it rejected it after hardly analyzing it seems as if it intended to prevent the country's democratic normalization. It is only appropriate to point out that other sectors have reacted positively. However, our attention is drawn to the fact that more than a month after the Armed Forces made the proposal the political parties have not only failed to give an answer but have even revealed a lack of interest in analyzing the proposal. Therefore, it is proper to make some statements in this regard.

The Armed Forces' proposal was made in good faith, free of Machiavallianism, as [words indistinct] should be, only bearing the country's and its people's well-being in mind. The Armed Forces, in turn, expect an answer in the same simple, unadorned, and sincere language from its interlocutors. A whole month has already elapsed since the Armed Forces made their proposal, and it is not going to wait very much longer for an answer. [end recording]

Commander Medina also reiterated that the Armed Forces are going to hand over a country that is preparing for the future and supported by the Armed Forces which will always cooperate with the new government authorities because they will not stop carrying out their own duties for the future, which should be shared by everyone.

[Begin Medina recording] With great honor we will hand over an improved country to those whom we hope will know how to continue governing it. We will hand over a country that is preparing for the future to those whom we believe will know how to guide it wisely through that future. The Armed Forces will support those new government authorities tomorrow and always, not because of a hunger for power, which we have never had, do not have, and will never have, but because we will not renounce, we cannot and should not renounce the fulfillment of our duties in that future that must be shared by everyone and which we will all experience with fraternal dignity and an optimistic spirit, with the only purpose of serving the Republic for the well-being of the fatherland. I hope that it will be so. [end recording]

COLORADO PARTY SETS BASIC CAMPAIGN PLATFORM

WA041102 Rome IPS in English 4 Jun 84

[Text] Montevideo, June 4 (IPS) -- Uruguay's Colorado Party, one of the three legal political parties and the second strongest, today announced its campaign platform for the presidential elections set for November. A party spokesperson told reporters that of the party's three main proposals -- return to democracy, respect for human rights, and socio-economic adjustments -- a resumption of democratic rule is the foremost demand.

Uruguay has lived under military rule since 1973. Negotiations between the Armed Forces government and the three legal parties have been strained, and there is some doubt that the November elections will be held as planned.

A joint committee of the main parties recently rejected the government's proposals for constitutional reforms, which would allow the military to retain important political powers under the civilian administration.

"It is obvious that the country can resolve the current critical situation to the degree that democracy is recovered," the Colorado spokesperson said, "not only for the intrinsic value that that system has as a lifestyle, but also because only democratic countries have good ways of dealing with Uruguay's numerous problems."

The party cited Uruguay's foreign trade as one of the most crucial problems, which it said has been hurt as much by the military government as by the international economic crisis, and the country's foreign debts.

The Colorado Party called for full respect for basic human rights and expressed particular concern over "the Uruguayan people's health, education, housing, employment, and low income problems." The country's economic problems are mainly the result of the regime's "orthodox monetary recipes that have done nothing but take Uruguay into a virtual bankruptcy situation," the party spokesperson said.

The Colorado Party said it will take its program beyond the party level, to talks with all the "majority forces in the country."

"Without democracy, without human rights, without due attention to the social and economic aspects of the current situation, there can be no solution," the party statement said. But the solution also requires "a great effort by the political parties and different social sectors to design joint action" on Uruguay's problems, the party said.

NATIONAL PARTY LEADER ARRESTED, HELD FOR 2 HOURS

PY061410 Paris AFP in Spanish 1136 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] Montevideo, 6 Jun (AFP) -- Sources of the National Party today reported that its vice presidential candidate, Carlos Julio Pereyra, was arrested last night by military personnel because of an alleged threat against him. According to the same sources, Pereyra, running mate of Wilson Ferreira Aldunate -- who is under proscription and wanted by the military court -- for the upcoming November general elections, was held at a military unit for 2 hours. Pereyra was informed at the military unit that he had been detained in order to protect him from a possible attack, but this reason was later denied.

Pereyra is head of one of the majority movements of the National Party (center-left) and is considered one of the main opposition leaders in Uruguayan political life. The relations between this party and the government are currently very strained as a result of the expected return on 16 June, after 11 years in exile, of the top leader of the party. It is recalled that Wilson Ferreira is wanted by the military court for alleged subversive links. The recent announcement of his return drew several reactions from the government.

BRIEFS

MONEY SUPPLY, ISSUANCE FIGURES -- The Central Bank has reported that the issuance of money grew by 5.21 percent in the first 4 months of 1984 and that the money supply decreased by 4.39 percent in the same period. [Summary] [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 13 May 84 p 12 PY]

FOREIGN DEBT GROWTH -- The decision by the main U.S. banks to increase prime rates by 0.5 percentage points has caused the Uruguayan foreign debt to grow by $25 million. Prime rate increases have caused the Uruguayan foreign debt to grow by approximately $70 million in less than 2 months. [Summary] [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 9 May 84 p 1 PY]

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH ARGENTINA -- Montevideo, 14 May (TELAM) -- Argentina and Uruguay today signed an agreement whereby the two countries will set preferential tariffs for their bilateral transactions involving cattle, sheep, and hogs. The agreement has been signed in keeping with the terms of the Argentine-Uruguayan economic cooperation agreement. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2149 GMT 14 May 84 PY]

GOVERNMENT OPPOSES GUYANA, BELIZE ENTRY INTO OAS

PA070318 Paris AFP in Spanish 1841 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Excerpts] Caracas, 6 Jun (AFP) -- It was learned here today that Venezuela continues to oppose the entry of Guyana and Belize into the OAS until they solve their border problems with their neighbors.

Article 8 of the OAS Charter establishes that the organization will not accept new states if they are the result of a process of decolonization that has not satisfactorily settled the territorial or border claims of countries that are already OAS members. Venezuelan Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul officially expressed the "concern" of the Caracas government in a telegram that he sent yesterday to Edison Gonzalez, chairman of the OAS Commission for Legal and Political Affairs, which is studying changes to Article 8 of this charter. The commission is planning to present a report in September. Morales informed the Advisory Commission on Foreign Relations today that the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry "is involved in an international plan to exert influence to promote a postponement of this issue."

ROMANIA SEEKS IRON, OIL IN EXCHANGE FOR MACHINERY

PA060054 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 26 May 84 p B-2

[Text] The Romanian Government is interested in buying iron and oil from Venezuela in exchange for machinery for the oil industry, a delegation from the Socialist Republic of Romania led by Grand National Assembly Chairman Nicolae Giosan has announced.

The Romanian delegation paid a visit to Energy and Mines Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti in an effort to increase commercial bilateral relations.

Giosan said that his country has reached a high standard of development in manufacturing machinery for the oil industry and he expressed the desire to exchange it for Venezuelan iron and oil.

Hernandez Grisanti has promised to study the offer, despite the limitations established by oil production quotas and other commitments in oil sales.

In the meantime, a group of Venezuelan technicians from BARIVEN [not further identified] will go to Romania to visit the oil machinery manufacturing companies to see if their products can be used in our oil industry.

ARTICLE SUPPORTS RELATIONS WITH EL SALVADOR

PA070534 Mexico City EL FINANCIERO in Spanish 4 Jun 84 p 4

[Article by Santiago Ibanez: "El Salvador: Time for a New Policy"]

[Text] The time has come for Mexico to reconsider its policy toward the Salvadoran Government. The recent change of administration there has marked a significant change is the circumstances that led to the withdrawal of our Mexican ambassador in El Salvador in 1980. The presence of the Mexican foreign secretary at President Jose Napoleon Duarte's inauguration confirms this. Now Mexico must show it impartiality toward Central America's conflicts, and to do this it must reestablish full relations with El Salvador.

President Duarte was elected in just and perfectly supervised elections that were observed by the Salvadorans themselves and by various international groups. While it is a fact that the extreme left did not take part in these elections and that it tried to stop the people from voting through violence, this, far from invalidating the sovereign decision of the majority of Salvadorans, only renders it more overwhelming.

A government that is determined to establish a democratic process cannot permit the existence of a small group of armed dissidents to neutralize its efforts. Nicaragua itself, which is preparing to hold elections at the end of this year, has unequivocally pointed out that the armed groups that fight against the established regime will not be permitted to take part. Why, then, is something that we consider appropriate in Nicaragua unacceptable when the Salvadoran regime does it? What, after all, is the goal of Mexico's Central American policy?

If our true purpose is to support democracy in Central America and to allow the peoples of the region to decide for themselves what kind of economic system they desire, there is no reason for us not to offer full support to Jose Napoleon Duarte's regime. It is a great deal more representative of the people's will than is the Sandinist regime in Managua, which was not elected by the people but emerged through force of arms.

Our traditional opposition to U.S. policy in Central America and our attempts to seek the favor of our own left by means of a "revolutionary" foreign policy are running the risk of going too far. We should be concerned about any situation in which the Mexican Government does not maintain an official representative before a government that was elected by its people -- under the pretext that it is not representative -- while we maintain relations with regimes that were not elected by the people, which are considered representative. By doing this, we act not only against the most basic principles of justice, but against our own interests.

PST PREPARES 'CONDE' PLAN FOR 1985 ELECTION

PA061445 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 21 May 84 pp 1, A34, A35

[From the "Political Fronts" column by Humberto Aranda: "The PST's [Socialist Workers Party] 'Conde' Plan"]

[Text] To strengthen its programs and increase its membership to be strong for the 1985 elections, the PST is preparing to carry out its "Conde Plan 3," prepared by a plenum of leaders which took place from 10 to 13 May in Oaxtepec.

Although this is a socialist party, its choice of a nobleman's title as the name for a program of action is still intriguing. The truth is very simple. The term "Conde" only points out that the PST will be subject to a consolidation and development plan.

In this plan, the party proposes to carry out tasks from this month until March 1985, in an effort to increase its strength, achieve "a multilateral structure, and above all open branches of the party in strategic municipalities, toward the...1984 electoral battle."

Party leaders Rafael Aguilar Talamantes and Graco Ramirez have formed a commission in charge of preparing a list of municipalities that can be considered strategic to intensify the party's campaign in these areas. The commission was given a deadline of 15 days as of 13 May to prepare the list of municipalities.

PSUM EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR PRT IN 'CAMPAIGN'

PA012030 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 28 May 84 pp 5, 8

[By Jorge Alcocer V.]

[Text] Since 1 May, in the wake of a reprehensible act of provocation that took place during the workers' march, a campaign of disguised intimidation and threats against the Revolutionary Workers' Party (PRT) seems to have started. Attempts to link the party to the 1 May provocation have no proof or reason. The PRT national directorate itself has denounced the pressures being applied on the party and has publicly denied any ties with the culprits who used Molotov cocktails during the march.

An example of this kind of intimidation is reflected in the "Political Fronts" column by newsman Aurelio Ramos M. published yesterday in which he said: "Members of the Federal Electoral Commission [CFE] are already discussing, at a personal level, whether the PRT should maintain or lose its registration in view of the political violence actually or presumably involving members of this party." Ramos added: As for the PRT, the commission is reviewing the political procedures repeatedly used by that organisation, and in particular it is reviewing several acts of violence in which PRT militants have actually or presumably taken part, such as disorders staged by mass agitators [preparatorias populares] and calls for national "civic strikes." "Representatives of parties and legislatures speaking to the CFE, for example, are convinced that the PRT lacks genuine power and that its place in the political scale resulting from the most recent federal elections is based on the personal effort of presidential candidate Rosario Ibarra de Piedra." (EXCELSIOR, 27 May 84, p A20)

Aurelio Ramos' commentary is obviously biased, because he attributes terribly serious charges to anonymous voices and irresponsibly involves all CFE political parties. In the face of this irresponsibility, I must emphasize that the PSUM [Unified Socialist Party of Mexico] publicly condemns this campaign against the PRT and that our party will give all its solidarity to the PRT in defending its legal registration, achieved through legal votes in the 1982 elections. It is not right to use rumors and unfounded charges against any party, but it is even worse to use these kind of measures against the left wing, which has been the traditional and continuious victim of the anticommunist inventions of foreign conspiracies and plots created in the feverish minds of the enemies of democracy and the magpies of the press.

I must also clarify that the PRT did not call for the upcoming 5 July demonstration, which will include the PSUM and PRT, labor unions, peasant organizations, and tenant farmers. It was called by the Labor, Peasant, Popular National Assembly [Asamblea Nacional Obrero Campesina Popular -- ANOCP]. There is absolutely no suggestion in that call that the law will be violated.

The demonstration, which has been called the "Second National Civic Strike" by most ANOCP members, will be carried out under the protection of constitutional guarantees and will be a peaceful protest in which tens of thousands of Mexicans will voice their views and demands to a government that restricts their living conditions and refuses to eliminate undemocratic restrictions that burden Mexico's political life.

Given that the EXCELSIOR newsman's statement involves all CFE members, it is imperative that CFE President Manuel Bartlett D. publicly clarify the PRT situation. If the authorities wish to make a legal charge against the PRT, they should do so through the procedures specified by law so that this party can make use of its fundamental right to defend itself. Otherwise, the authorities would be promoting political terrorism through terrible, illegal means.

Finally, contrary to newsman Ramos' claim, the PRT actually achieved it legal registration in an electoral process controlled and supervised by the government itself. Nobody gave the PRT its political rights, and the law does not prohibit popular candidates such as Mrs Ibarra de Piedra. The voters will determine the political future of the PRT in 1985. Meanwhile, the CFE and the government have the obligation to conscientiously respect the PRT members' rights as citizens and also to respect that party as an organization with mass appeal, as specified by the Mexican Constitution. Those who plotted this crude action against the PRT must know that those companeros are not alone. Much like the PSUM case, the PRT registration is a triumph of the entire Mexican left wing. Hence the PRT enjoys and will enjoy the support of the PSUM to face any illegal attempt to take away its rights.

FEDERAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION HOLDS MEETING

PA042030 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 2 Jun 84 pp 1, 4

[Text] At the end of the first meeting of the Federal Electoral Commission (CFE) in the current 6-year period, held yesterday, Interior Secretary and CFE President Manuel Bartlett Diaz said that the work of that organization reaffirms the existence of politics as a way to state views and solve differences. At this meeting, representatives of all the political parties unanimously approved the issuing of a call for new parties and political groups to register.

Bartlett said: "In the face of the actions that stemmed from this meeting, we can stress that politics is alive, democracy is fully working, and that their processes respond to the letter and spirit of the law."

He added: "The CFE, the country's political-electoral organization, held this meeting with the contributions of its members and the opinions of those who emerge from the people they represent. Within the context of the economic crisis, the solidity of the institutions becomes evident under the wise and democratic leadership of President Miguel de la Madrid. Mexico advances within the framework of the Constitution and we live under the guarantees that a de jure system provides.

"This political-electoral organization reaffirms the existence of politics as a way to state views and solve differences. We can now say, facing the facts, that this session shows that politics is alive, democracy is fully working, and their processes respond to the letter and spirit of the law.

"The CFE has announced its opening to review requests of parties that wish to register. Unanimously, the members of this commission have begun a process of analysis and reflection to decide whether it is appropriate to review applications for registration.

"It is now up to the subcommission to analyze this matter within the terms of the law, and it is up to the commission to decide, freely and putting aside party interests, if those making the requests meet the requirements of the law and are thus deserving of being included in the registry.

"This organization of the democratic state, characterized by its pluralism and made up of the parties and entities of public interest, will determine the steps to be followed. Democracy and pluralism are entrusted to pluralistic and democratic organizations. The Mexican people exercise their sovereignty through institutions regulated by the law and moved by democracy. Thus the people's path is open and safe."

During the CFE session, Fernando Elias Calle, technical secretary of the organization, who is also the Interior Secretariat director general of government, reported that several political groups had asked to be recognized and, for this reason, the members of the CFE were being asked to approve the call to declare the registry period open to give official recognition to these groups and thus expand political pluralism and reinforce democracy.

The requests made by the Authentic Party of the Mexican Revolution (PARM), Mexican Workers' Party (PMT), and the Mexican Labor Party [Partido Laboral Mexicano -- PLM], as well as that of the Political Association for Nationalist Affirmation [Associacion Politica de Afirmacion Nacionalista] were announced at the meeting. Socialist Trend [Corriente Socialista], the Socialist Workers' Party [Partido Obrero Socialista -- POS], and Democratic Unity [Unidad Democratica] have also requested official recognition.

In their speeches, representatives of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), the Workers Socialist Party (PST), the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM), the Mexican Democratic Party (PDM), the Popular Socialist Party (PPS), National Action Party (PAN), and the chambers of deputies and senators said that this was the right moment to open the channels of the citizens' expression and reinforce pluralism and democracy.

The meeting was held without any discussion, and the representatives voted unanimously in favor of this proposal and of a report read by the technical secretary. In addition, PSUM representative Sabino Hernandez Tellez proposed that the Televisa attitude regarding political programs aired by parties be reviewed. The contents of these programs, he said, are subject to censorship and are aired at hours which are not stated in the law concerned. He called for a review of the case, the punishment of Televisa, and measures to prevent the violation of this law in the future.

GUADALAJARA UNIVERSITY RESPONDS TO EXCELSIOR

PA070620 Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 4 Jun 84 p 9

[Autonomous University of Guadalajara advertisement]

[Excerpts] The University Council of the Autonomous University of Guadalajara met in special session today and agreed to defend the prestige of the university and of Deputy Rector Antonio Leano Alvarez del Castillo against those who, like "Excelsior Cia, Editorial S.C.L." [limited joint stock company], have built a discrediting and slanderous campaign around the person of Manuel Buendia, a journalist with the daily "EXCELSIOR" and its news network who died on Wednesday, 30 May, the victim of a heinous crime.

The University Council also agreed to file suit against EXCELSIOR and against anyone who might be responsible for publications that slander the Autonomous University of Guadalajara.

EXCELSIOR has now published false information, such as that appearing on the last column of its front page in today's edition, in which it slanderously claims: "The DFSA [Federal Security Directorate] arrested eight of the Tecos in Guadalajara on Suspicion." This is signed by Victor Payan and M. Olivares.

The University Council hereby publicly urges EXCELSIOR to provide names or evidence that is based on facts, not false information based on cruel imagination.

It is obvious that EXCELSIOR seeks, with its false information, to pressure the legal authorities who are in charge of the case to persecute people or institutions that are guiltless.

The Autonomous University of Guadalajara hereby asks the press and other media to convincingly confirm the information in EXCELSIOR or that provided by others who slander the University, so that they may responsibly exercise their function of informing truthfully and objectively.

Guadalajara, Jalisco, 4 June 1984, "Science and Liberty"

Dr Luis Garibay Gutierrez, rector; Carlos Perez Viscaino, secretary general

IXTOC-18 WELL CONFIRMS EXISTENCE OF RICH OIL FIELD

FL061526 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0330 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] Mexico City, 5 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- The Ixtoc-18 oil well, located on the Bay of Campeche, began operations with the production of 6 million cubic feet of associated gas daily, the parastatal Mexican Enterprise (Pemex) reported today. The parastatal enterprises said that this well confirms the existence of a rich oil field on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico and explained that the crude oil is catalogued at 32 degrees API, which is used for export and is comparable to Saudi Arabian light. Pemex added that, at the present time, adjustments are being made to regulate production, and laboratory analyses are being conducted to determine the complementary characteristics of the liquid and gasseous hydrocarbons being extracted.

The parastatal enterprise denies that the contamination of the water in Gustavo A. Madero and Azcapotzalco townships [delegaciones], located north of this capital, are the result of waste from the Ocho de Marzo Refinery. It stated that the waste from this refinery is piped directly to the drainage canal and the pipe does not pass near the affected zone or cross the drinking water pipelines that supply these townships.

SIDERMEX ATTEMPTING TO EXPAND EXPORT MARKETS

FL071946 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1602 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 7 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican Iron and Steel Industry (Sidermex) has announced that Mexico is negotiating the export of raw and processed steel with Tanzania, Talwan, and Saudi Arabia, as well as with Caribbean countries, including Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Trinidad and Tobago, Belize and Suriname. It added that it is also working to expand its sales to Canada, the United States, and China. After satisfying domestic demands, it will attempt to export 830,000 tons, the same amount as last year.

PRESIDENT-ELECT MEETS WITH SUPREME COURT JUDGES

PA071723 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] As he had promised during his political campaign, Panamanian President-elect Nicolas Ardito Barletta this morning met with the judges of the Supreme Court of Justice to discuss subjects related to the judicial branch.

President-elect Ardito Barletta arrived on a working tour today in the Supreme Court of Justice. He was accompanied by Vice President-elect Eric Arturo del Valle. They were met on their arrival by Santander Casis, secretary general of the Supreme Court. They held a meeting with the Supreme Court to exchange views with the honorable Supreme Court judges regarding important aspects dealing with the laws, application of justice, and urgent concerns and needs of the judicial branch.

The president-elect and vice president-elect subsequently met with all the Supreme Court judges headed by Supreme Court President Americo Rivera.

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES CONTADORA MEETING

PA072301 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1603 GMT 7 Jun 84

["Exclusive" interview with Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega by unidentified reporter in Panama City on 7 June -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Mr Minister, what new aspects or areas will be broached in the Contadora Group meeting that begins in Panama City tomorrow?

[Ortega] The main object of the meeting is to complete a task or a stage; that is, to summarize, order, organize the recommendations that were made by the working commissions on 30 April. On Saturday and Sunday we will deliver these recommendations to the five Central American presidents, along with a summary of what the Contadora Group has discussed, including a statement on its procedures and on the formal work carried out to reach an agreement. In this case, that is the final objective. Presidents must renew their mandates to foreign ministers. For purposes of definition, the foreign minister of any given country is a plenipotentiary official. But in so crucial a stage as that resulting from the Central American crisis, it is better for these political mandates to be renewed directly by the region's presidents, so that when the foreign ministers sit down to negotiate they can be sure that they may speak for their countries, governments, presidents, armies, and cabinets.

This is what we are doing in this weekend visit. We have been seeking political commitments, high-level political willingness at the presidential level.

We will then be able to have sufficient support to decide how the drafts of resolutions will be prepared. Of course, this procedure should be determined at a joint meeting of the four Contadora Group foreign ministers and the five foreign ministers from the region, and this meeting would have to be agreed upon after the visit to Central America. It would be held in Panama after about 2 weeks, when this summary has been sufficiently considered. After all, this summary of recommendations is fundamentally the substance of the draft resolution.

Once we have defined the draft and incorporated these recommendations and means of verification into it, we will be able to say that we have a draft resolution.

We will also determine a way to negotiate, with an eye to signing an agreement.

In our opinion, this is as close as we can come to a solution to the Central American conflict, approaching it in stages.

[Reporter] Diplomatic sources have indicated that Costa Rica, Honduras, and El Salvador have presented no objections to the initiation of the final meeting, as they already have summaries of the documents submitted by the working commissions. It has also been reported that the Guatemalan Government is somewhat reluctant to sign or support an agreement politically and diplomatically because the United States has imposed a sort of quarantine on Guatemala and is not sending it any arms. In addition, Nicaragua is offering resistance because it does not want its arms or Army inventoried. What can you tell us, Mr Minister?

[Ortega] I am certain that once we have defined the draft and the negotiation on it is begun, not all of the topics will be easily accepted by the five countries involved. This is what negotiation is about. Many countries will have to trust in the Contadora Group fully, including the United States and Cuba.

Nicaragua will be reluctant to take any action on the withdrawal of military advisers or to comply with political principles governing an independent electoral organization if, on the other side, Honduras does not admit that it has military bases in its territory and is willing to have those foreign military advisers leave Honduras.

The Contadora Group will have to be the guarantor. If any country steps foward, the Contadora Group will have to guarantee that the other country does the same. This is what negotiation means.

This is why we say that not all of the topics will be accepted by the five countries; this is obvious. We believe, however, that if there is willingness to negotiate it is possible to move ahead. If we submit a draft resolution that is the result of a consensus -- even though its clauses will not have been approved, only submitted for discussion -- none of the five countries will be prepared to sign it immediately. They will have to negotiate, which is why we talk about a negotiation stage.

The time has arrived when the region's countries will have to compromise on those positions that hamper an agreement, while stepping forward with new positions to guarantee this agreement. This is what the Contadora Group must accomplish in this process of negotiation.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, did the Contadora Group have something to do with the fact that a new stage of negotiations has apparently opened between the Salvadoran Government and the political-military opposition? Yesterday, the acting president of Costa Rica met with three Salvadoran rebel leaders and in this meeting some subjects for negotiation with the Salvadoran Government were discussed. Also, has the Contadora Group considered the possibility of working to promote rapprochement between the Sandinist leaders and the armed opposition, the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] or ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance]?

[Ortega] There have been some new qualitative developments in the area and they fell within the Contadora process. Some of these new developments are the meeting between George Shultz, U.S. secretary of state, and Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction; and a rapprochement between some guerrilla groups and Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte.

In the case of Shultz' meeting with Commander Ortega, it can be said that this is the first time that such a meeting has been held without the usual charges and countercharges, It was held in order to create a climate of trust between the two countries and because the United States has begun to realize that all of that aid provided by the U.S. Congress, some covert and some overt, has produced nothing. Nothing was achieved by these military actions and escalations.

The suggestions that the Contadora Group has presented are consistent, seeking understanding and political and social models in the area that will be compatible with pluralism in all of its phases: a mixed economy; respect for human rights; recognition of the principles of international law that direct the conduct of states and nations; and even the participation of opposition groups and of those rebel groups that are militarily active. The reconciliations that must occur should be sought through the use of legal methods and situations, such as fair participation of all political parties, and guarantees that armed groups that lay down their weapons will have political access. All of these proposals are included in the Contadora documents. The United States has viewed these proposals as a real opportunity for agreement, having already studied them. This was the reason for the meeting between Shultz and Commander Ortega.

We must praise President Jose Napoleon Duarte's attitude in offering to talk with the guerrillas. He has said that he does not wish to talk with weapons on the table, but this does not mean that the guerrillas must lay down their weapons. The rebels cannot lay down their weapons at the moment, for, as they have already noted, they have no guarantees. However, they can talk, as the guerrillas are doing in Colombia. They could call a cease-fire with weapons in hand, and this is not negotiating with weapons on the table. When the peace agreement was reached in Vietnam, it was not negotiated with weapons on the table. This then, is the situation in the region, and Panama is playing a role.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, as a person with experience in these dialogue and negotiating processes -- you have participated in so many negotiations, both here and abroad -- did you notice, in your talks with Secretary of State Shultz, any real political desire and interest on the part of the Reagan administration in finding a political negotiated solution to the conflict, rather than a military escalation in Central America?

[Ortega] I feel that such a positive attitude may well exist right now, and that it must be taken advantage of by Contadora in pursuing the negotiated option.

U.S. 'Change of Attitude'

PA071829 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 7 Jun 84 pp 1, 22

[By Euclides M. Corro R.]

[Text] Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega Duran yesterday told CRITICA that "the latest U.S. activities demonstrate that there has been a change in the U.S. Government's attitude toward the Contadora Group, and that a peaceful and political solution is possible in Central America." He also said that after the meetings the foreign ministers of Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, and Panama (the Contadora Group) will hold with each of the chiefs of state of the five Central America nations it will be possible to start preparing a draft of a final agreement. The foreign ministers of the Central American countries and the Contadora Group countries would participate in the discussion of the draft.

Ortega said: "The idea is to jointly draft the final agreement, which will have the Document of Objectives and the recommendations of the technical commissions as a basis."

The Panamanian foreign minister said that the visit to the five Central American countries this weekend will alow the Contadora Group to deliver to the chiefs of state of those countries a summary of the recommendations that the technical commissions presented on 30 April. He noted: "We will also present to them a report on what Contadora has done so far."

Regarding the editing of the final agreement, a job which possibly could be accomplished by the end of the month, Ortega said: "This document must be negotiated in the capital of the Republic of Panama."

Ortega stated that "Contadora is not working hurriedly, but steadily. At this moment the main interest is in establishing the will of the five Central American countries. We want things to happen with the speed that the situation demands, considering the urgency of the case.

ORTEGA AGAINST RAISE FOR U.S. WORKERS IN CANAL

PA071826 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega interviewed by unidentified reporter; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] The salary adjustment that U.S. employees are seeking due to the loss of privileges would create wage discrimination. This was stated by Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega during an interview with Televisora Nacional.

[Ortega] Regarding the cost of a salary adjustment due to the loss of some privileges by the U.S. employees in the Canal administration, especially the loss of the privileges to use the commissaries due to the treaty provisions, we believe that any cost of living adjustment will in this case mean a wage increase and at the same time it will create a discrimination problem that was eliminated when the double wage scale was eliminated recently by the Canal Commission board of directors. Such an adjustment would place the Panamanian worker in an unequal position because only the wages of the North Americans would be increased.

We have maintained in the meetings of the Panama Canal Commission board of directors that such a cost is excessively onerous for the canal administration, and that it would also affect the net income that Panama could receive once it is established that there is a surplus in the revenue from the tolls. The Panamanian economy would be affected in every way, the country's image would also be affected, and above all the Panamanian workers' output in the canal administration would also be affected because there would be a disadvantageous situation that would affect the performance of those workers.

[Reporter] What attitude would the Panamanian Government adopt if the North Americans adopted such a decision?

[Ortega] We have thought of a possible solution as a last resort. If the U.S. workers are going to be given a wage adjustment due to the cost of living, one should also be given to the Panamanian workers in the Panama Canal Commission. However, that cost of living adjustment should not come from the revenue produced by the administration of the Panama Canal, from the commission's revenues. Instead, the adjustment should come from the U.S. Government's revenue.

As a result, the U.S. workers as well as the Panamanian workers would benefit, and obviously so too would the economy. In this way, we would not be creating an unequal wage situation. This could be the proposal that Panama presents as a last resort. Our firm position is that there is currently no room for any kind of privilege, either to maintain them or to have the Panama canal administration create new ones.

OFFICIAL SAYS BALLOTS READY FOR ELECTIONS

PA071601 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Felix Gomez, director of the Electoral Organization Office, interviewed 7 June by unidentified reporter]

[Excerpt] Felix Gomez, director of the Electoral Organization Office, has said that Formularios Continuos [printing company], with support from state printshops, at dawn today concluded printing and cutting the vote cards. Gomez said that this guarantees that the elections will take place on Sunday.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Are the vote cards for the municipal and corregimiento elections to take place Sunday, 10 June, ready?

[Gomez] Yes, the cards are ready. In the past 2 days we have sent many cards to various municipal election organization offices. Today we are correcting some printing errors in some cards. We will do that this morning, and then the cards will be sent to the provinces.

The Defense Forces are cooperating with the Electoral Tribunal to take these cards to remote places such as Bocas del Toro, Darien, and San Blas. At noon today the officials involved in the election process in the gulf area -- which includes the islands of Otoque, Oriente, and Occidente -- and that in the Balboa and Chiman districts will be going to the assigned places.

[Reporter] This means, Mr Gomez, that the tribunal guarantees that enough cards will be available at the almost 4,000 polling places?

[Gomez] That's right. The cards will be available on election day. We are now preparing the polling places, the booths, and the material needed in the polling places. [end recording]

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH BANGLADESH

PA052145 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 5 Jun 84 p 10A

[Panamanian Foreign Ministry communique issued 5 June]

[Text] The Government of the Republic of Panama and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, eager to develop bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation, have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of 5 June 1984.

COSTA RICA

DEPUTY MINISTER ON FAIT MEETING WITH FMLN-FDR

PA071442 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Duarte's response to the revolutionary movements is irresponsible. It is practically a denial of a political solution and confirms that the electoral farce has established a regime that continues the line of previous governments and does not open a new peaceful path of dialogue for El Salvador. This was stated in the communique that was presented to Acting Costa Rican President Alberto Fait by the Salvadoran guerrilla leaders who met with him.

Leaders Ruben Zamora, Salvador Samayoa, and Commander Ana Guadalupe Martinez spoke with Fait for 40 minutes. Manuel Carballo Quintana, deputy minister of the presidency, was also present at the meeting.

President Duarte established conditions for the Salvadoran guerrilla leaders within a context of a generalized political and military confrontation in which none of the parties can seriously seek to impose conditions on the other as a prerequisite for initiating a dialogue. The laying down of the weapons by the guerrilla movements is the least serious condition proposed by President Duarte, the communique that the Salvadoran guerrilla members presented to the acting president stated. They asked him to serve as an intermediary in the dialogue sought with the Salvadoran rulers.

The FMLN cannot be asked to lay down weapons because this movement has been inflicting constant defeats on an army of 40,000 men financed, armed, and advised by the United States. Since he rejected a dialogue in his inaugural speech, and foreseeing the failure of that war policy, Duarte alluded in an abusive and demagogic way to the right of legitimate defense, thus establishing the legal-political pretext to which his government will resort to establish and justify the U.S. decision to stage a massive intervention in El Salvador once the revolutionary victory becomes inevitable, the Salvadoran guerrilla leaders said during their visit to the Presidential House. We maintain our decision to hold a serious dialogue so we ask the Costa Rican Government to mediate, they said.

For his part, Manuel Carballo Quintana, deputy minister of the presidency, who was present at the meeting, said that the meeting was held at the request of the FMLN-FDR political-diplomatic commission. The meeting was to continue the efforts at mediation to achieve a dialogue between the Salvadoran armed and political opposition and the Duarte government.

Since the exchange of views was begun with President Monge Alvarez, the revolutionary leaders were interested in learning the reaction of the Salvadoran Government and in reiterating their desire and willingness to hold a dialogue as soon as possible. They were told that the talks for that dialogue had been carried out at the presidential level, but, if they were still interested, a communications channel could be established between them and the Duarte government through Vice President Fait. We really wish such a meeting to be held between the two opposing groups without prerequisites or a preestablished agenda, as Costa Rica's contribution to the Central American peace process, Deputy Minister Carballo Quintana said.

SOLANO WARNS FDN AGAINST USING TERRITORY

PA070430 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] The Costa Rican Intelligence and Security Directorate has reports that indicate that the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN] is trying to displace the ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] groups that are operating in southern Nicaragua. This was confirmed today by Costa Rican Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano Calderon.

[Begin Solano Calderon recording] The reports indicate that the FDN could take over what is called the southern front. This would not present serious difficulties for Costa Rica, as long as they do not attempt to use Costa Rican territory. We have already warned them in this respect. We will take the same actions with the FDN as we did with ARDE. They must understand that Costa Rican territory cannot be used. I have already cautioned that this FDN group is maybe even twice as dangerous for our country.

Recent history between Costa Rica and Nicaragua and our relationship with the Somozists is no secret. Many difficult situations were created because of this, and I feel that difficulties arise from the possible hatred that the Somozists in Costa Rica [as heard] still bear. I feel that we should be very careful and act calmly and prudently. I also believe that all of this can be resolved as long as the Costa Rican Government and its authorities truly guarantee the principle of neutrality and do not permit the use of Costa Rican territory. [end recording]

Solano Calderon added that the clashes reported in the past few hours near the northern border could be a result of this issue.

Meanwhile, he indicated that the Public Security Ministry continues to cooperate in the investigations into the La Penca, Nicaragua, incident. The minister added that the ministry is cooperating with the Judicial Police and that the two institutions are seeking the same goal: to clear up that terrorist attack.

FUGITIVE TERRORIST LINKED TO BAADER-MEINHOF

PA071646 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2357 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Excerpts] San Jose, 6 Jun (DPA) -- The man who pretended he was a Danish newsman during the news conference granted by Eden Pastora on 30 May in La Penca, Nicaragua, 2 km from the border with Costa Rica, is being diligently sought throughout the United States by the FBI, and throughout the world by INTERPOL. According to investigations carried out in Costa Rica by the Judicial Investigation Agency (OIJ) and the Intelligence and Security Directorate (DIS), the impostor, who said his name was Hansen der Anker, could be a member of the FRG's Baader-Meinhof gang. THis information was provided by DIS based on its investigations.

It has been clearly established that the impostor speaks English, French, German, Spanish, Danish, and Swedish, the last two languages poorly. The real Hansen der Anker is a Copenhagen engineering student who lost his passport 4 years ago.

Costa Rican Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano today admitted that it was "an error to have allowed people -- especially the imposter and NEWSWEEK newswoman Susan Morgan -- to leave the country after the attack." Susan Morgan, who is British, was the person who asked the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) to allow the impostor to go to the news conference as her photographer.

The impostor used one passport to enter Costa Rica, another to move about in the country -- at the hotel, to exchange dollars, etc. -- and a third one to leave the country. It is certain that he went to Miami on an Air Florida flight, since he was seen inside the hotel [as received].

A DIS spokesman said: "We urgently need the assistance of the FBI in this case, since the impostor is in U.S. territory." The spokesman added: "INTERPOL has placed the world on alert for this international terrorist."

EL SALVADOR

PRESIDENT DUARTE MEETS WITH MOTHERS COMMITTEE

WA081230 Rome IPS in English 6 June 84

[Text] San Salvador, June 6 (IPS) -- Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte today met with a committee of mothers of political prisoners and people who were assassinated or disappeared for political reasons. It was the first time that the government has received the committee, which has been requesting an audience for the last three years. Duarte, who took office June 1, came to the door of the presidential headquarters to talk with about 300 members of the mothers' committee. "You understand that you cannot be given an easy and immediate answer," Duarte said. "it is not a problem just for you, but for the entire country."

The mothers' committee gave the president a huge sheaf of papers bearing the names of people arrested, missing or assassinated in El Salvador, most of the incidents in the last four years.

Duarte promised that chief presidential adviser Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes will meet June 8 with a delegation from the committee, which will provide him with documents on several thousand cases.

He also agreed to the mothers' demand that the government carry out extensive investigations into "the clandestine jails, the police dungeons, the basements of Army headquarters." Duarte said he will name a special commission to launch a detailed investigation.

The mothers gave the president a statement calling for "honest dialogue which will help us resolve the serious problem of human rights" in El Salvador.

"It is no secret to anyone," the statement said, "that the current violence and the civil war which we have suffered for more than four years are nothing more than the response of a people who have suffered for more than 50 years the injustices of a dominant class, which give rise to human rights violations."

The mothers also called for an end to the military-linked "death squads," which have murdered tens of thousands of civilians in the last few years and punishment for those responsible for the crimes.

"We want to talk with you," the committee told Duarte, "because now begins the period when concrete steps can be taken in this specific case."

Dialogue with the government "would be well received by all the mothers and young people, who naturally feel threatened," the human rights group said.

COPREFA ON INCREASED COMBING OPERATIONS, CLASHES

PA070123 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 6 Jun 84 pp 2, 34

[Text] Spokesmen for the Armed Forces Press Committee [COPREFA] yesterday reported that troops have increased their combing operations in the Departments of San Vicente, San Miguel, Morazan, Chalatenango, Cuscatlan, Usulutan, La Union, and Cabanas in search of subversive strongholds.

The biggest operation is being carried out north of the town of San Sebastian in San Vicente Department; in an area known as the San Pedro Hills. For the past 2 years, the subversives in that area have set up camps that are heavily equipped with various kinds of weapons, ammunition, war supplies, and combatants.

The Army's current purpose is to attack the terrorists' positions in that area and to prevent them from moving into the central areas of San Vicente Department.

COPREFA spokesmen have reported that seven FMLN-FDR subversives were killed in clashes with the Army in two different operations in San Miguel and Morazan Departments. Six terrorists were killed in the canton of El Amate, in the jurisdiction of San Miguel, San Miguel Department, while one was killed in the canton of Las Cruces, in the jurisdiction of Sensembra, Morazan Department.

According to official reports, the soldiers have confiscated large amounts of ammunition, weapons, and other war supplies left behind by those extremists who managed to escape.

FMLN GROUP RELEASE BODIES, WOUNDED TROOPS

PA071726 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Command of the Southern Group of FMLN's Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade communique issued 6 June; place not given]

[Text] On Tuesday, 5 June, at 0700, the bodies of 13 members of the national Navy, including the 2 lieutenants who were killed in clashes with our forces in Las Mesas, in Jiquilisco in Usulutan Department on Monday, 4 June, at 1500, were turned over to the San Marcos Lempa military base.

The bodies were turned over by our revolutionary forces so that the families of the dead troops could give them a Christian burial. At the same time that the bodies were turned over to the base, four of the five troops who were captured in the same battle and who were seriously wounded were released so that they can receive adequate medical attention and return to their families. The names of the troops who were released are: Carlos Mauricio Mejia Andrade, 17; Jose Pascual Fuentes, 20; Santos Felix Hernandez Flores, 17; Juan Paulo Henriquez, 18. They are all members of the naval commands of the national Navy.

We reiterate our willingness to treat humanely, respect the physical and psychological well-being of, and release all the soldiers, NCO's, and officers who surrender to the FMLN in battles.

United to fight until the final victory; revolution or death, we shall win!

PRS REPORTS ON CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

PA071534 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 7 Jun 84

["Salvadoran Revolutionary Party, PRS, and the People's Revolutionary Army, ERP," Communique issued "in May" -- place not given]

[Text] 1. The Salvadoran Revolutionary Party, PRS, informs the Salvadoran people and the sister revolutionary organizations that in April and early May we concluded a meeting of our Central Committee, through our zonal and jurisdictional commissions and party leadership organizations, designed to adapt ourselves to the conditions of the revolutionary war we promote.

2. At this meeting we analyzed the course of the revolutionary war, the development of our party, and our party's strategic role alongside the other organizations that make up the vanguard of the Salvadoran people, the FMLN.

2. At this meeting we examined the deepening of the U.S. plans of aggression against our homeland, and we advanced in the definition of the military and political guidelines with which we will face and defeat the intervention alongside all the people and all the revolutionary and democratic organizations.

4. The conclusion reached at this meeting are highly positive for the development of our party, since we have been able to evaluate the broad development of our revolutionary army and our organization of the masses. This important growth is the result of the advances achieved in the revolutionary war and in the political awareness of the Salvadoran people. These factors have allowed for important achievements in our organizing tasks inside the liberated areas, expansion [expansion] area, and the enemy's rearguard. This has increased the number of combatants who have joined the ranks of the revolutionary army and militants who have joined our mass organizations.

5. The development of our political and military structures demand that we increase the quality of our party structure at all levels. This meeting permitted us to fundamentally expand our rank and file militants, our Political Commission, and our Central Committee, whose number was insufficient for the internal leadership needs, and to meet the new demands of the revolutionary process at this time. We also decided to evaluate, through criticism and self-criticism, the behavior of each of the members of our organizations's leadership bodies: the Central Committee and the Political Commission.

6. The PRS Central Committee reports to the people and the sister revolutionary organizations that new members have joined this highest leadership body and that our party's Political Commission, which is also the General Command of the ERP, is now made up of Companero Commanders Joaquin Villalobos; Ana Guadalupe Martinez; Ana Sonia Medina; Mercedes del Carmen Letona; Claudio Rabindranath Armijo; Jorge Melendez; (Eleno Castro), alias Commander (Carmelo); (Carlos Argueta); and Rodrigo [no last name as heard]. Companero Joaquin Villalobos was confirmed as secretary general of the party and commander in chief of the ERP.

7. We report the heroic death in combat of Companero Bruno Caballero, alias Commander Quincho, during the clashes for the seizure of Ciudad Barrios on 24 December 1983, an action that played an important role in the defeat of the enemy oepration being carried out against Morazan Department. Companero Bruno Caballero, alias Commander Quincho, was a founding member and builder of the northeastern front in Morazan, and he was a member of our Central Committee and of the staff of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade. He died in a brave and exemplary way, fulfilling his duty as a fighter and showing his qualities as a militant.

The meeting of the plenum of our Central Committee reaffirmed our party's line of ideological principles, which has now been strengthened by the revolutionary teachings and values bequethed to us by Lilian Mercedes Letona, alias Clelia; Francisco Martinez, alias Gonzalo; (Mario Zamagua), alias (Chemo); Guillermo Posada, alias Raul; (Macario); and Bruno Caballero, alias Quincho, all members of our Central Committee who have fallen in the last 4 years of war.

8. Our Central Committee and our entire party reaffirm to the people and the sister revolutionary organizations our firm and invariable position of strengthening the unity of the vanguard, the FMLN, and the strategic alliance with the democratic forces of the FDR; of deepening of the revolutionary war against the dictatorship and imperialism; and of holding high the strategic interests of all the people and the working class.

Let us contribute to the advance of the revolutionary process by strengthening our party; let us deepen the revolutionary war against the puppet government, a defender of the oligarchs and imperialism; let us prepare to defeat the U.S. aggression; let us strengthen revolutionary unity; let us fight until triumph or death. Revolution or death, we shall win!

FARABUNDO MARTI DERIDES GUERRERO APPOINTMENT

PA070221 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] The Legislative Assembly has appointed a legal adviser to the death squads as the country's attorney general. Jose Francisco Guerrero, one of the leaders of ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance], the political front for the death squads, was appointed the country's attorney general at a plenum held by the Legislative Assembly [words indistinct] yesterday. With this appointment, a man who will defend the interests of the death squads, thus forestalling any possibility (?of punishing) the people's murderers, has become the leader of the office that is tasked with [words indistinct] murders and crimes.

FARABUNDO MARTI CHARGES TYPHOID 'EPIDEMIC'

PA070255 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] The inhabitants of La Paz, Cuscatlan, Cabanas, and San Vicente Departments are being affected by an outbreak of typhoid fever, the result of insufficient sanitation on the part of the Public Health Ministry and of the need for additional hospital facilities. In San Salvador alone, some 800 cases have already been reported. This epidemic is the result of the lack of attention paid to the people's health by the dictatorship and its corrupt officials.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA VICTORIES CONFIRMS 1 JULY ELECTIONS

PA070300 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] Head of State Oscar Mejia Victores today stressed that the elections for constituent assembly seats will be held on 1 July, regardless of any obstacles that might arise. He estimated that the state will spend some 3 million quetzales on the elections. [1-minute recorded passage indistinct]

Today, some political parties announced their intention to seek a meeting with the Supreme Electoral Tribunal to discuss some obstacles that, according to these groups, threaten to hamper the electoral process. The problem that the political leaders mentioned as the basic causes of concern are violence and certain restrictions on political campaigning. On the issue of violence, the politicians cited alleged abuses against leaders and members of certain parties. The head of state commented on this. [recorded passage indistinct]

ARMY AIDE ON REFUGEE RELOCATION, REPATRIATION

FL071542 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2200 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Guatemala, 6 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- The chief of the Guatemalan Army's Department of Information Lieutenant Colonel Francisco Djalma Dominguez told NOTIMEX today that, with the transfer of the Guatemalan refugee camp toward the interior of the country, the Mexican Government is respecting international treaties that establish that such camps must be located at least 50 km from the border. I believe that the decision that Secretary of Government Manuel Bartlett has made regarding the refugees is in total accordance with internatonal law. The decision to relocate the refugees is a good one for the two nations, Djalma Dominguez added. He said that each nation, in dealing with the refugee problem, does what is best for its own interests. Mexico is observing international treaties and integrating the refugees into the productive life of the nation. Guatemala is doing what is necessary so that the refugees who wish to return will find the appropriate conditions here. Although Mexico has started to transfer the refugees, the idea of their prompt repatriation is present in all the executive departments of the presidency and at the decisionmaking levels of the Guatemalan Armed Forces, he said.

HONDURAS

LOPEZ REYES ADDRESSES NATION ON ARMED FORCES ROLE

PA070245 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 0105 GMT 7 Jun 84

["Message to the nation" by General Walter Lopez Reyes, commander in chief of the Armed Forces -- live]

[Text] Hondurans: The Constitution of the Republic solemnly declares that the Honduran Armed Forces have been established to defend the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic, to maintain peace and order, and to support the Constitution, the principle of free elections, and succession in the presidency of the Republic. To defend the Constitution is perhaps the Armed Forces' most all-encompassing and definitive task, because its superior legal standing establishes the Armed Forces' charter and other laws that have general application within the state.

In my capacity as commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, I reiterate my subordination to and abidance by the law. The Constitution and its laws establish the areas of my responsibility, the functions and powers that have been entrusted to me, and my corresponding responsibilities. The Armed Forces' situation is the same as that of any other branch of the Honduran Government, which acts in accoreance with the constitutional order. I consider it an unavoidable duty to tell the Honduran people that before I assumed the leadership of the Armed Forces, the Constitution and other more ordinary laws were not receiving the respect and compliance that they deserved from the highest officer in the Honduran Armed Forces, who, on his honor as a soldier, is required to set an edifying example to ensure that the legal order in Honduras is strengthened.

In contrast to this, distortion in the use of power and of the military command, straying from strict compliance with his legal authority took place, endangering Honduras' peace, domestic and international security, its peace-loving and democratic policy, and as a result, the good name of the armed institution. Such conduct, harmful to the nation's interests, brought about the events intended to regain the dignity of the Armed Forces and of the constitutional government of which we are part, that took place on 31 March 1984 and that concluded with my election by the sovereign national congress as commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces on 4 April, in full compliance with all legal procedures that regulate this matter.

After the change in the military high command, and with the support and cooperation of our officers and our ground, naval, and air forces, we have begun an honorable process of changes, restoring to the institutions the dignity that it deserves in its compliance with the objectives that are its reason for existence. The Armed Forces High Council has resumed its constitutional function as a consulting group on all matters pertaining to the armed institution. The Armed Forces command has established purposeful and commendable prudence as a guidline for the institution's conduct, both in domestic and international affairs, so that constitutionally responsible authorities are not interfered with or impeded in carrying out their functions, and so that public opinion may not be confused, in obvious contrast with the arrogant and threatening oral abuses that were commonplace in the recent past. It is proper that this prudence not be interpreted as a sign of weakness in learning of, handling, and resolving our problems, both professionally as soldiers and on a national and international scale. The Honduran people may rest assured.

Under my command, the Armed Forces have initiated the necessary investigations and have requested the cooperation of other government authorities to establish the civil and criminal responsibility of those who have broken the law and committed actions against the armed institution and the Honduran economy. The Honduran people may also rest assured that in our effort to protect the population and the integrity of the national territory, we will continue to honor our uniform with calm professionalism and will repel any foreign aggression without theatrical behavior. By applying the pertinent laws, we will fight those who promote deterioration in our domestic situation or act against the normal development of our democratic institutions.

The Armed Forces and other government institutions have inherited situations that insult their condition as defenders of order and freedom. In an era such as ours, in which the international community has taken upon itself the defense and protection of human rights, it is important that those who are responsible for abusing power and violating the law do not go unpunished. We very well know that the terrorist does not respect the law, but the law confers upon the state the opportunity to apply sanctions applicable to the terrorist with the rigor that circumstances demand. The Armed Forces, on the instructions of the constitutional president of the Republic and in cooperation with other responsible authorities, continue their investigation into actions reportedly carried out by the forces of public order, which include abuses of power or violations of the law, in order to establish the veracity of these charges and, if confirmed, to place the guilty under the jurisdiction of the pertinent courts for trial, so that, if they are found guilty, the may receive the full weight of the law.

The Armed Forces are deeply aware of the serious economic crisis that is currently plaguing the Honduran people, currently exacerbated by external factors of diverse origin. We all realize that we confront a foreign debt that is close to 4 billion lempiras, which has become even more burdensome because of the recent increase in interest rates. A chronic deficit in our balance of payments, low prices for our export products, and a weak structure in the production of goods and services have created a dangerous economic and social imbalance, reflected in alarming fiscal and balance of payment deficits and an unemployment rate of approximately 21 percent.

This somber outlook compels the Armed Forces to grant full support to the measures taken by the government to reactivate our national economy, to readjust the public financial system, and to improve the quality of life for all Hondurans. In this sense, we support the intensification of measures to rationalize public spending, to review fiscal incentives in those cases where competitive industries have not emerged, to increase the efficiency of tax collection, and to intensify our land and forest reforms. In addition, our capacity to negotiate with governments and international organizations must be strengthened, and we should adjust the Armed Forces' development expenditures to the practical limits imposed by our national economy. With regard to security, I must reiterate that it is necessary that Honduras rally international military cooperation to the utmost, to protect the vital interests and dignity of the republic.

With these principles, I reaffirm the Armed Forces's commitment to help to clean up and strengthen our national economy. I confirm the Armed Forces' firm support for the constitutional government that was freely elected by the people, as well as their full support for the executive branch's negotiations to find a peaceful and regional negotiated solution for Central America's problems, within the context of the Contadora Group.

Finally, I fervently urge the Honduran people and their productive sectors to unite in brotherhood in this time of crisis, to devote our best efforts and sacrifice, so that with our unity the Republic may overcome the dangerous conditions that it is currently experiencing. There is an expressive appeal that emerges from the soul of our nation: unity in facing danger, collectivity in overcoming obstacles, and patriotic concord in strengthening the goals of justice, progress, and freedom. Greetings, people of Honduras.

FORMER UN AMBASSADOR ON U.S. -NICARAGUA RELATIONS

PA071732 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Report by Paco Medina Argenial]

[Excerpt] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' visit to Nicaragua has caused great concern in Honduras. An early reaction came from former Honduran UN Ambassador Enrique Ortez Colindres.

[Begin Ortez recording] Shultz' visit is of extraordinary importance, because it shows a 180-degree turn in U.S. policies regarding relations with Nicaragua. I remember that in the past U.S. diplomats took special care not even to appear with the heads of Nicaraguan foreign policy. They established specific patterns of separation; they did not go to meetings where there could be confrontations. I would not say that this is a political turnabout, but, in popular jargon, as some would say, Honduras has been ignored. What this means is that, somehow, Honduras has been left out of important decisions. [end recording]

The Honduran jurist and politician acknowledged that Honduras has dropped into the background in the regional context, after being the first ally of the United States in the region.

[Begin Ortez recording] More than anything, I think that Honduras has gradually lost the geopolitical importance that it had in the regional conflict. Honduras served the interests of all of Central America and the Carribean, so that the elections in El Salvador could take place. In my opinion, they are negotiating; no one moves at those levels without a pure and clear intention. [end recording]

OLIH LEADER DISCUSSES INDIANS' SITUATION

AU071737 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 6 Jun 84 p 5

[Text] The Indian population of Honduras suffers in particular under the oppression of the U.S.-supported government. It is also the victim of blackmail attempts by Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries and by the CIA which want to abuse the Indians in the struggle against the Sandinist government. NOVOSTI correspondent Jorge Ramirez discussed these problems in Mexico with Julio Cesar Calderon Morales, coordinator of the Liberation Organization of the Indians of Honduras (OLIH).

[Ramirez] Mr Calderon, when and how did the OLIH come into existence and what are its aims?

[Calderon] Various ethnic groups live in the north of Honduras, for example, the Miskito Indians, the Sumu Indians and the Paya Indians in the Department of Gracias a Dios. The Caribbean Creoles live predominantly in Colon. We founded our organization in 1981 when counterrevolutionaries penetrated our territory. In the same year, the Government of Honduras stationed an infantry battalion on Indian territory at the request of the U.S. capital. The battalion is to support the Somozist bandits in their attacks on Nicaragua. Hence, our struggle has just begun. We Honduran Indians have our own language, traditions, customs, and culture and we wish to preserve all this. But we also know well that Honduras has become a U.S. colony, a base for Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries, and we resolutely oppose this. Thus, we are struggling against the Army and government in Tegucigalpa and against the Somozist gangs and U.S. advisers to the Honduran Government.

[Ramirez] Can you say something about the Indians' situation in the border zones with Nicaragua?

[Calderon] Their situation is particularly difficult and serious. We are pleased with the victory of the Sandinist revolution because it also embodies our wishes. Many Miskito Indians who live in Nicaragua were prompted by trickery and force to leave their homes. The Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, allied with our government and the United States, played a dirty role in this. There are two very questionable characters who describe themselves as Indian leaders. The name of the first is Steadman Fagoth, he is a German by birth who speaks several Indian languages, and then there is his "right hand" by the name of Brooklyn Rivera. Their tractics are very simple: A counterrevolutionary gang enters an Indian village in Nicaragua and forces the people by threat of violence to march across the border into Honduras. If the Indians do not want to obey, they are killed. A mass murder of 200 Indians took place recently at the Segovia River. This was not the first such case. Thousands of Indians have already been killed. Whoever wants to return from Honduras to his home in Nicaragua is shot by soldiers of the Honduran Army, Somozist bandits, or by U.S. soldiers who are participating in the "Big Pine" maneuvers in Honduras. A total of 34 Indian communities in our country have accepted such "refugees" from Nicaragua. The biggest camps are Moquoron and Oquo. There are Somozist gangs around these camps.

[Ramirez] To what extent is the CIA involved in these maneuvers?

[Calderon] Thus far, CIA agents have already compelled, by trickery and force, some 5,000 Indians in our country to join the counterrevolutionaries. They are being made to believe that communism -- a monster from overseas -- wants to enslave the Indians, wants to take away their bread, women, and children. But it is the Somozist gangs that take away our women. So-called power squadrons are swarming around in the border areas. They exterminate entire Indian families and leave behind notes stating that the Sandinists have been here. All that I am recounting here is the genocide of our Indian tribes.

NICARAGUA

BORGE ON REVOLUTION, U.S. POLICY, CHURCH

PA062130 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 4 Jun 84 pp 1-A, 20-A, 21-A, 38-A

[Report by Jorge Uribe N.]

[Text] Managua, 3 June -- Commander Tomas Borge, interior minister in the Sandinist government, has declared here that President Reagan's administration has had "to fake a peace policy" toward Nicaragua in order to project the image of conciliation it needs at home to face the domestic campaign. He also accused Washington of trying to recover world hegemony, "not through moral force," but through force and the humiliation of weaker peoples. As for Mexico and the Contadora Group, he stressed that had it not been for them, his small Central American nation would already have been invaded.

In one of the few interviews he has granted in recent months, Borge, the minister, the politician, the poet, the revolutionary, and the writer, met for almost 5 hours with this EXCELSIOR correspondent. Our conversation included official statements, comments, curses, and even confidences from the charismatic Sandinist that were almost compromising in their informality.

He said that, as is suspected, the election that has been announced for November does not excite him very much; that he is not pro-Soviet or pro-anything, "but pro-Nicaraguan"; that most of the country's bishops "are a race of traitors"; and that he did not wish to continue denying the alleged aid sent to the guerrillas in El Salvador in the form of weapons.

[Borge] "We will never again discuss that. Now we only discuss this at the international organizations, within the Contadora Group, for instance. We have proposed pacts of nonaggression in that forum; we have proposed that the Honduran and Nicaraguan Armies work jointly to control and prevent the alleged arms traffic for the Salvadorans. It is no longer a matter of whether weapons are sent or not, but of creating the mechanisms for control to ensure that those weapons do not arrive. As usual, we are willing to reach agreements with all interested parties. But I repeat, we are tired of constantly denying that we are sending weapons. We are tired of denying charges that have never, ever been even closely confirmed. There has never been any evidence or specific proof."

The interview began at about 1100 in Borge's home in the lower middle class neighborhood of Bello Horizonte; it continued in his car; then in the Roberto Huembes Market, where he invited this correspondent to lunch; and it finally concluded in his office.

Small in stature, but with an overwhelming personality, Borge, 56, continues to be the best loved leader of the Sandinist revolution. Borge uses flowery speech, has great charm, and constantly changes the subject in his conversation and chats with his aides.

At some point, he himself answers the telephones and (to his subsequent indignation) one of those calls is from a reporter of the very critical and anti-Sandinist newspaper LA PRENSA who, in short, asks him something about "hero Eden Pastora." This is a childish provocation, particularly because whenever anyone here refers to the recently injured Commander Cero, he always says "traitor Pastora." Hardly able to contain himself, Borge curtly answers with two or three phrases and later reveals his fury when the interview continues.

The Revolutionary Loves Life, But Gives It

[Uribe] Commander, are 40 years of Somozist violence and now 5 years of aggression wearing out the Nicaraguan people? How much longer can these impoverished and exhausted people endure?

Borge, the poet, reflects, rises, moves his head and finally brightens:

[Borge] "We are willing to die, despite our love of life. When one is willing to die even though one loves life, it means that one is a revolutionary. To be a revolutionary -- and I have just now realized the truth of this definition -- means to love life deeply, but to be willing to give it for the revolution."

According to him, only a revolutionary can understand the peoples' capacity to endure pressure, aggression, provocation, and inconvenience.

However, the Nicaraguan people are not as deprived as they were under Somozism, for instance. The quality of health and education has improved considerably. Food consumption is currently twice that of the period under the dictatorship, to the extent, he says, that per capita consumption has exceeded per capita production.

However, Borge admits, there are acute shortage problems, not because there is no sugar, soap, toilet paper, or toothpaste, but because there is price-gouging, hoarding, and speculation. Naturally, this has a political price that the revolutionary government must pay, as this element must be added to the campaigns designed to distort the truth, encourage dissatisfaction, and even influence people: [Borge] "If anyone protests against a given issue, it is immediately assumed that he is protesting against the revolution, instead of merely accepting it for what it is. We are going through stages marked by restriction, and as a result, we must all do the same thing."

Counterrevolutionary jokes circulate here in Managua about the alleged luxurious life and alienation from reality in which the nine commanders of the revolution live. A deformation of the FSLN's acronym has even been made up. According to the opposition, it really means "happy, only the nine" [felices solo los nueve].

Borge commented on this: "The example of austerity must be set by revolutionary leaders at all levels. They must set the example by sharing with the people, whenever possible, their needs, difficulties, and deprivations, living in the same places, sharing the shortages. Our National Directorate has been taking measures to see that the revolutionary cadres share the general difficulties experienced by the country, because it would not be fair to create a privileged caste amid the poverty."

Borge recently moved from a large residence located in an elegant area of Managua -- a residence confiscated from the Somozists who fled -- to the one in which he currently lives in the Belo Horizonte neighborhood, which is mostly inhabited by employees and workers.

He also referred to one of the frightful blots of this nation: corruption.

Unbribable Police

He admits that the shortage problems persist because, despite the efforts being made, vices of the past, such as administrative corruption, also persist.

"However," he admits with evident satisfaction, "we have won very important battles: We have absolutely unbribable police. It is a police force that earns a meager salary and therefore has needs, and for this reason it is incomparable. I dare anyone to try to bribe it. There is a mysticism about honesty in the police force (an office of the Interior Ministry). We are proud of this."

However, the Nicaraguan people, the Sandinists, know of the dangers that are stalking them: [Borge] "Of course that danger weighs down upon us. However, we are optimistic despite this, even though we know of the U.S. Administration's political desire to try to eliminate this revolution.

"The messianism comes from the Americans, who want to recover world hegemony by means of force; not on a moral basis, but by means of force and imposition, violence and the humiliation of our poor and weaker countries. That messianism weighs down on us, but we have confidence in ourselves and in international solidarity. We are confident that a way will be found for truth. Moreover, (Reagan) is not standing on such firm ground in the United States himself. There are important sectors of the American people, political and religious sectors and even sectors in Congress, that have become aware of the magnitude of the disrespect and injustice involved in the policy of aggression against us."

There Is No Determinism [determinismo]

The U.S. presidential elections seem to be a landmark for the existence of the Nicaraguan revolution, because, according to the analysts, if Ronald Reagan wins it is almost certain that he will launch his armed troops against the Salvadoran guerrillas and probably against Nicaragua.

Borge knows this very well, but he does not agree with this general view:

[Borge] "We are not determinists, and it is not that we are unconcerned about what might happen in the United States. Apparently, Reagan will be reelected and this will lead to the implementation of an arrogant and aggressive policy against us and other Central American nations. However, we will have to wait and see what happens in Congress. We will have to see what balance of political forces emerges within Congress after the elections.

"This does not take into account the fact that their domestic economic situation has deteriorated so much that the headache represented by the Central American problem is not as bad as to endanger reelection. Things are getting complicated. Reagan will be forced to pretend that he is pursuing a policy of peace toward Nicaragua and he will have to take some steps to show that the U.S. Government is interested in achieving peace. It is logical that he would decide that important U.S. officials should come here and speak with rulers or leaders of the revolution in an attempt to foster the image that the Reagan government is interested in peace. "But those are objectives designed for internal consumption. Nevertheless, we, who are responsible for peace in Nicaragua, will be willing to respond to those initiatives."

The Revolution Is Nicaraguan

[Uribe] Commander Borge, some of you are described as pro-communist, pro-Soviet, pro-Cuban, and other things, but in general the Sandinist revolution does not fit under a specific ideological sign...

[Borge] "Of course, because it does not have the sign you are looking for. We are not pro any of the things you mentioned. We have friendly relations with the Soviet Union, but in today's world, those who are not satellites of the United States are satellites of the Soviets. We are no one's satellites. Just as we can be friends, we can also be good enemies. However, we aspire to create an advanced society, where the fundamental means of production are socialized, establishing, within the strategy of our revolution, a mixed economy in which those businessmen who love this country can have their chance.

"We seek to generalize a superior morality that would be shared by all. In any event, we will be a capitalistic society, but one with its own characteristics. We will not be a mechanical copy of the Cuban, Hungarian, or Bolshevik revolutions. It will be Nicaragua's own revolution. A true revolution must be waged under its own particular sign. "No one will create -- because we do not want to -- a carbon copy of some other revolution, some other historical experience. If this were tried, the revolution would fail.

"If you take a picture of our revolution, you will see that its face differs from others. If, in addition, you take its fingerprints, you will see that they are its very own, that they do not resemble any others."

Borge suddenly interrupts the conversation: Are you hungry? he asks. He answers himself: I am. Come on, let's have some lunch nearby. We leave Borge's house without any racket. There were only this correspondent; Borge; Danilo Aguirre, secretary general of the FELAP [Federation of Latin American Journalists], who helped in obtaining this interview; and a secretary. Borge's car was preceded by a police patrol and followed by a station wagon with three security agents.

We move through the beautiful paved streets of the once destroyed Managua. The three vehicles rigorously stop at each streetlight, and it is precisely because of this that the regime's strongest man is the best loved and most popular man, as well.

Twenty minutes later we arrive at the Roberto Huembes Market, where Borge is apparently a regular customer. Room is quickly made for the minister at a table near other customers (each serving of food costs 40 cordobas). Plate in hand, each person must choose, by the kitchen, the dish he wants and a glass of water. Once he finishes eating, Borge faces a problem, for in his haste he has forgotten to bring any money and cannot pay the bill, but his aide solves the problem.

People crowd around him: Mrs Juana Albornoz, who lives "three blocks toward the lake from the Golden Nugget and from there 50 yards to the left," asks him to help her buy 550 square yards of space to set up a craft industry; someone else asks him to order the installation of four more fans inside the market, because it is too hot. A young mother accuses a Uruguayan of refusing to acknowledge that he is the father of her son; a crippled man asks him to get him new crutches and, finally, a woman complains that a gate that fell a week ago has not yet been fixed.

-- Listen, Tomasito, my love, get them to improve our protection.

-- Look, Tomas, the heat is unbearable and you have not ordered the fans.

-- Tomas, you always solve our problems, so now we want you to help us.

Borge listens, undisturbed by their familiarity. On the contrary, he answers in the same terms.

[Borge] "Look, sweetheart, I have written your name down and will order that the space be given to you; you will be responsible for the payments. I will have them fix some crutches for you. As for you, I have already asked someone to install the fans.

About the Patriotic Military Service

The conversation inside the market ends and the small party returns to the vehicles.

[Uribe] Commander, now that I have seen how people trust you, it would be prudent to ask, do the people accept the Patriotic Military Service without complaints? Aren't they affected? Do the mothers rebel?

[Borge] "There are mothers who are justly afraid, because we send their boys to war after a 2-month training period, to a war in which they can die, as many do. However, most people accept it, because it is a situation that we must confront in the face of aggression. It is not a situation that we have sought. The condemnable part, however, is that certain political parties are basing their campaign on the promise to eliminate the Patriotic Military Service. That is both illegal and immoral. To deny the military service is to place yourself on the side of the attackers. It is a betrayal of the homeland, which other nations under similar circumstances punish with the death penalty."

Position of the Church

[Uribe] After 5 years, the revolution has been praised, but although it has gained some support, it has apparently also lost some. I am talking now about the Catholic Church, for instance...

"The Catholic Church is very big," Borge answers, "and it is not easy to see it as a whole, without parts. Now, when we speak of the Catholic Church's hierarchy, we have not lost their support, because we never had it. When has Managua Bishop Miguel Obando y Bravo endorsed the revolution? Never. The same goes for the other bishops who make up the Episcopal Conference. Unfortunately, those bishops belong to a race of traitors, to the sector that has turned itself over to imperialism. On the occasion of the attacks," Borge stresses furiously, "the U.S. bishops issued a pastoral letter against Reagan's policy, while these gentlemen, the Nicaraguan bishops, issued a pastoral letter toward which even Reagan would have felt ashamed and would have had reservations in signing. "These gentlemen, these bishops, are more papist than the pope, more Reaganian than Reagan himself. The stand taken by such individuals, enemies to their country and their people and traitors to their own homeland, causes indignation. As far as the Christians are concerned, however, the immense majority," he adds on a calmer note, "support our people. I mean the immense majority of Nicaraguans. The great community, which expressed itself when the pope came, support us, that same majority who gave an ovation to the Pope but also protested to him over his positions. However, these sectors seem to be damaging the revolution with their positions, and the damage is worse than it might seem."

Borge does not stop: "Of course they damage the revolution, but they damage religious beliefs even more, because after the pope's visit there has been a current of skepticism here. We did not launch an anti-Christian campaign; they themselves launched it with their behavior. The stands in support of aggression damage us, but they damage their own plan for a Catholic Church in Nicaragua even more."

Time has flown. Back in Minister Borge's office, new questions arise. He seems an inexhaustible source of answers, witty remarks, and funny dialogue.

Mexico and Contadora, Obligatory Subjects

[Borge] Aside from Mexico's position within the Contadora Group, Mexico has maintained a principled position toward the Nicaraguan revolution. From the time of the revolution's victory, during the administration of President Lopez Portillo -- whose behavior toward us we recall gratefully — to this day under President De la Madrid, Mexico has expressed its solidarity and of its international policy. [sentence has published] Thank you, Mexican brothers.

"But I want to tell you something: I have mentioned former President Lopez Portillo because we Nicaraguans are grateful regardless of the situation. The men change but gratitude is eternal. That is the nature of our gratitude toward Mexico."

Another obligatory subject: the elections. Borge admits that they do not excite him very much, as he is more interested in defending the revolution, solving the shortage problems, and confronting ideological divisionism. [Borge] "The elections are a part of our struggle, but they do not monopolize all of our time."

The conversation almost ends because of the minister's activities. There is talk here about the results of a meeting held by the FSLN National Directorate, where it was decided that Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Sandinist government, would be the presidential candidate, and Sergio Ramirez Mercado the candidate for vice president. No one admits this officially, but it is tacitly understood that Borge, the most popular of the commanders, lost his chance before that superior body and lost it again later at the Sandinist assembly, which confirmed the decision made by the nine. In view of this situation, a last question arises, and it receives a final answer:

[Uribe] After the elections, will Borge, the poet, dedicate himself to writing books? Will he rest, will he continue his political activities or what?

[Borge] "I see little opportunity for rest. I will do whatever the National Directorate decides I should do. I will go where I can best serve the revolution. I see little chance for writing, which is something that I would indeed like to do very much. Nonetheless, I think that I will continue to devote my energy to the revolutionary leadership and the defense of the revolution."

NUNEZ ON COUNTERREVOLUTION, POLITICAL SOLUTION

AU071701 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 6 Jun 84 p 4

[Text] "The Nicaraguan working people are now undertaking great efforts to meet the high demands which the defense of the revolution, in view of U.S. aggression, levels on every individual." This is what Carlos Nunez, chairman of the Nicaraguan State Council and member of the national leadership of the Sandinist Front for National Liberation (FSLN), told NEUES DEUTSCHLAND's Detlef Klement.

An adequate supply of basic foodstuffs is one of the most important facets in this effort. The CIA-controlled Somozist partisans and other counterrevolutionary elements hope to further complicate the supply situation through the purposeful destruction of agricultural crops and storage facilities.

It is becoming more and more evident, Carlos Nunez stated, that the counterrevolution conducts its attacks chiefly against civilian objectives such as enterprises, cooperatives, power plants, and state institutions in order to weaken the economy. The mining of Nicaraguan ports also served this purpose. These acts of piracy were launched by CIA commandos precisely at the time when the harvesting of cotton and coffee was entering the final stage. It is because of this serious attack on international trade that considerable difficulties are being created for Nicaragua to meet its contracts on delivery of these most important export products.

Since the beginning of this year, Carlos Nunez continued, material damages totaling some $200 million have been caused to Nicaragua through the mining and destruction wrought by mercenary gangs. In view of the most recent defeat of the counterrevolutionaries, some 8,000 of whom are still concentrated in the almost unpopulated and impassable northern and southern regions of Nicaragua, confidence in the military strength of these groups is dwindling, even in Washington. This is why in the past few days the CIA has further increased the number of its "advisers" in the counterrevolutionary camps in Honduras and Costa Rica.

Asked about prospects for the peace efforts of the Contadora states of Mexico, Panama, Colombia, and Venezuela in Central America, the State Council chairman stressed that the hoped for political solution in the region first and foremost depends on the Reagan administration. Without Washington's abandoning the policy of strength, the governments dependent on the United States -- Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador -- will not display any serious interest in a political dialogue proposed repeatedly by Nicaragua, either.

But the military maneuvers in the Gulf of Mexico, in Honduras, and in the Gulf of Fonseca show that Washington, as before, is still insisting on a military solution. Under the disguise of these military exercises U.S. aircraft have increased the number of their espionage flights over Nicaragua. At the same time, Honduras is being further strengthened in its role as a gendarme in that region.

COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA BILL ARTICLES APPROVED

PA060420 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Jun 84

[Text] The State Council yesterday focused its attention on two new articles in the communications media bill. The government will guarantee that all political, labor, and social organizations have access to the Sistema Sandinista Television Network. This is another step forward in the process to allow the people to participate in the communications media so that they can communicate with their brothers.

It was also established that radio stations must carry state-sponsored cultural and educational programs free of charge. These programs can be carried during the station's regular programming. The idea is to continue to improve the people's cultural level. In addition to this, all radio and television stations, private, state-owned, or jointly owned, must identify themselves every hour. Television stations will read their call letters and radio stations must give their frequencies every hour. Radio and television stations must also operate on Nicaragua's official standard time. Finally, to help in identifying the station, it must give the name of the city where it is transmitting.

The Directorate of Communications Media is authorized, in accordance with Article 22, paragraph VI of the communications bill, which was approved by the State Council yesterday, to give its approval for radio and television networks. The original draft of this article was amended and approved by general consensus on the third day of the debate.

Another article that was approved yesterday establishes that radio and television owners and managers and people responsible for radio and television programs must submit their quarterly programs to the Directorate of Communications Media. If a change in programming is necessary during this time, it must be reported to the Directorate of Communications Media 3 days beforehand. The article also establishes that newscasts and commentary programs must be recorded and stored for 3 days.

PLI Withdraws From Debate

PA072135 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1955 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Managua, 7 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- The Independent Liberal Party, PLI, has decided not to take part in the debates on the media law, alleging that the law "does not guarantee freedom of the press."

PLI sources reported today that the party's executive committee sent a letter to the State Council, the junta's legislative body, announcing the PLI's temporary withdrawal from the media law debates.

According to PLI leaders, if the new law is approved "it will become an even more repressive substitute" for the current state of national emergency, which has been in effect since March 1982. The law of national emergency, which expires on 19 July 1984, authorizes the Sandinist government to censor the press, among other things.

Orlando Quinonez, the PLI's representative at the State Council, told ACAN-EFE that the law, if approved, "will render the political parties' participation in the up upcoming November elections more difficult."

The PLI's representative at the State Council began to become concerned when the legislative body's plenum approved a resolution that did not satisfy the majority of the opposition parties, the same sources observed. The PLI demanded that the resolution be sent back to the Rules Committee [Comision Dictaminadora] for review, so that it might "reflect" on the work that had been done, particularly the opinions of the other sectors that are interested in the law. Instead, the State Council decided to appoint the Interior Ministry as the law's overseer.

The PLI and other opposition parties wanted to see a national communications council, "composed in a democratic manner," oversee application of the law.

The PLI delegate stopped taking part in the debates on the media law yesterday. Other pzrties, including the Social Christian, Social Democratic, and the Constitutionalist Liberal Parties, have also been temporarily absent from the State Council for the same reason.

PCDEN Criticism of Bill Noted

PA071448 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Jun 84 p 2

[Commentary: "Communist Party Harshly Criticizes News Media Law"]

[Text] AVANCE, the official publication of the Communist Party of Nicaragua, PCDEN, has harshly criticized the communications media law, which the government is trying to impose on the Nicaraguans through its approval at the State Council.

The PCDEN asserts that this law has been handled with excessive haste, and that the participation of all the other parties and organizations represented at the State Council has not been taken seriously. To prove this, the publication asserts that the bill was not revealed before its presentation; not even Domingo Sanchez, a member of the FPR [Patriotic Front of the Revolution], was aware of the bill's contents. In addition, the Reviewing Commission has not allowed enough time to make an in-depth evaluation, and the bill was approved in a general way, without taking into consideration the other parties' suggestions.

The publication's commentary also asserts that "to restrict the laws of an electoral process within the framework of an antidemocratic spirit is not only contradictory but also opposes the goals which the government has sought with the electoral process itself."

Referring to the bill's articles, the publication says that they have been divided into two parts: one seeks to sweeten and soften the bitterness and hopelessness of its countless prohibitions and sanctions; the second is comprised of prohibitions and sanctions that are drafted in a general, broad-based sense, and they may apply to anyone, according to the prevailing ideas of the JGRN [Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction].

The PCDEN's viewpoint is that the communications media law seeks to extend the state of emergency. This would be like a sword of Damocles hanging over our heads, threatening the peoples' demands and the workers' and peasants' struggle.

If this law is implemented, the PCDEN would have no possibility of making its government program known, the electoral struggle would be for the sake of appearance, and the elections would lose their meaning.

The bill that has been presented cannot be amended, since it contains too many deformities. In Nicaragua there are already other laws that control freedom of expression: the media law, the political parties law, and the electoral law. If a new law is to be approved, it should be the next Legislative Assembly that should do it.

FDN LEADER ON CAMPAIGN AGAINST ECONOMIC TARGETS

PA070025 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1912 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 6 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- The rebel FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] has begun a campaign to destroy vital economic targets, in order to strangle the Sandinists' productive system and to foster a popular uprising.

FDN military sources told ACAN-EFE today that "the plan to attack and destroy important northern Nicaragua productive centers is proceeding successfully."

Produce farms and high quality cattle ranches in the northern Departments of Jinotega, Esteli, and Nueva Segovia have been occupied by FDN groups in the past few weeks, the sources said.

According to them, the FDN political-military directorate has issued precise instructions to its rebel fighters to attack important Sandinist collective production centers and to then withdraw to the nearby mountains immediately.

The anti-Sandinist sources also reported that the mining of Nicaragua's harbors has weakened exports and produced a decrease in imports.

In a recent statement to ACAN-EFE, FDN leader Adolfo Calero Portocarrero said that the FDN's Special Operations Command, COE, "will attack economic targets in Nicaragua's provinces and even in the capital itself."

Calero said that "the protection that the Sandinists provide these vital centers of Nicaragua's economy is deficient," and claimed that "it would be very easy for us to destroy the big oil refinery near Managua."

"It would be like shooting at a sitting duck," the anti-Sandinist leader said, "because that refinery, which is of vital interest to the nation's economy, is within firing range of our mortars."

Calero maintained that "the Sandinist economy is developing increasingly catastrophic characteristics, as demonstrated by the rationing of staple products and the lines that are formed to purchase them."

"This social tension will give way sooner or later," the rebel leader concluded.

HART DAVALOS ON INFORMATION WAR WITH U.S.

FL071240 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Minister of Culture Armando Hart Davalos, Politburo member, has said that installing a counterrevolutionary radio station directed at Cuba will only increase the Cubans' hatred for imperialists and perfect Cuba's presentation of information. Hart Davalos said the United States will strengthen us and perhaps even show us how to use all of our resources more efficiently in confronting this war of information.

The Cuban leader met for over an hour with directorate members of ARAITO magazine, which is edited by Cuban youths who live abroad. The ARAITO directors are in Cuba for the magazine's 10th anniversary.

Responding to several questions, Hart Davalos said that since the beginning of the Reagan administration a fascist policy toward international public opinion has existed. He added that a greater effort at dominating mass media, as well as in creating public opinion, can now be observed, as in the case of Grenada.

More on Hart Comments

FL071924 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Minister of Culture Armando Hart Davalos, Politburo member, has met with youths from ARAITO magazine and the Cuban Circle, from the United States, at the House of the Americas. After congratulating the ARAITO directorate members on the magazine's 10th anniversary, Hart Davalos talked about the international situation and answered questions.

[Begin recording in progress] [Hart] ...You have really accomplished a feat, a feat that undoubtedly has a place in Cuba's history, and that makes us happy. We extend our congratulations on the magazine's anniversary and are happy at your presence here today.

We live and will continue to live in increasingly difficult times. I believe the difficult times will not be confined to us Cubans, or you, who are part of Cuba, or to Central Americans and Americans [as heard], but will extend worldwide. We must be prepared for that time.

[Unidentified questioner] On the internal situation in Cuba regarding Radio Marti and its mass media position on Radio Marti...

[Hart] On its ideological influence in Cuba, we have no reason to fear that it will be able to influence Cuba in that way. The United States believes that we Cubans will be unable to resist the influence of this fascist station's propaganda. The United States should understand that we also know how to dominate, if we want to, by propagandizing, spreading information, and using such methods. They should understand that we will know how to respond. [end recording]

PASO, L.A. OLYMPICS OFFICIALS COMING TO HAVANA

FL072328 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] An AFP report, datelined today in Mexico City, says that in a few hours, the president of the Pan-American Sports Organization [PASO], Mario Vasquez Rana, will arrive in Cuba. American Peter Ueberroth of the Los Angeles Olympics Organizing Committee will travel with him. In the opinion of this reporter, Vasquez Rana will offer explanations as to why the PASO meeting, scheduled for 8-10 June in Havana's Palace of Conventions, was canceled.

SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHE ON WORLD WAR II

FL060210 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Jun 84

[Text] The Soviet military attache to Cuba has said at a press conference -- referring to President Ronald Reagan's upcoming trip to Normandy -- that the attempt by western nations to convey through the mass media the portrayal of the European nations' bellicose actions and the United States as a savior of European civilization has been uncovered.

[Begin attache recording] The attempts by several western nations, these nations' officials, and the mass media to diminish the heroic Soviet peoples and other European nations' fight against fascism has produced both sorrow and confusion, as has the falsification of historical facts and the representation of these nations as the liberators, who not only did not suffer through the last war [World War II] but on the contrary, succeeded in enriching themselves off the blood and suffering of many millions of innocent people. [end recording]

PALESTINIAN LEADER ON MIDDLE EAST EVENTS

FL061530 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] A Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] delegation headed by Mustafa Abu 'Ali, assistant secretary of the organization, has held a press conference at the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples [ICAP] offices. At a press conference, Abu 'Ali described the Palestinians' present situation in occupied territory under the repressive Israeli regime.

The Palestinian leader condemned U.S. activities which try to take advantage of the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in the Arab Persian Gulf, in order to intervene under the pretext of protecting oil tankers in the area. In the name of the PFLP, Abu 'Ali called on Iran and Iraq to stop the war, which has gone on for 4 years.

On the unifying process which is taking place among the various Palestinian organizations, Abu 'Ali said the process is progressing in a positive manner, in accordance with the results of the meeting in Algeria in April.

23D ANNIVERSARY OF MININT FOUNDING CELEBRATED

FL061202 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] The combatants of the Ministry of the Interior [MININT] are receiving the homage of the Cuban people on the occasion of the 23d anniversary of the founding of the MININT. Armando Acosta, alternate member of the Politburo and national CDR [Committee for the Defense of the Revolution] coordinator, attended a ceremony in the Cuban capital at which the nation's CDR members expressed their gratitude for the unselfish work done by MININT personnel. After the ceremony, the MININT officials, MININT Vanguard workers, and CDR leaders present at the ceremony visited the Diez de Octubre Municipality, where they were entertained by the CDR.

The National Secretariats of the CDR, the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] and its unions, and the Council of the Society for Patriotic-Military Education sent congratulatory messages in which they stressed the glorious pages written by those combatants in their struggle to safeguard the achievements of the revolution. The messages say that success was made possible by the close relationship between MININT personnel and the workers, farmers, and Cuban people.

More on Ceremony

FL071726 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] The main ceremony commemorating the 23d anniversary of the founding of the Ministry of the Interior [MININT] was held in the auditorium at MININT headquarters under the slogan: Our strength is the people's strength. Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes, member of the Cuban Communist Party Politburo and interior minister, presided over the ceremony. Division General Jose Abrahantes, Central Committee member and MININT first vice minister, attended the ceremony with MININT generals and officers and other guests. The decision to carry out any mission however difficult or demanding it may be was expressed by First Lieutenant (Orlando Mendez), National Vanguard [worker] of the MININT, who read a communique in the name of MININT personnel. Brigadier General German Barreiro, Central Committee member and vice interior minister, gave the keynote speech.

MATANZAS PROVINCE SUGARCANE HARVEST REPORT

FL071242 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1413 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] The agroindustrial sugar plant workers of Cuba Libre, in Pedro Betancourt, Matanzas Province, fulfilled their spring sugarcane sowing plan in good time, made advances in their methods of planting and in their use of fertilizers, and carried out a strong battle against weeds. Included among the more than 140 caballerias which have been sown, are some 50 caballerias which were [word indistinct] in the low lands, a technique which has produced very good results.

In the last harvest, the Cuban Libre's agriculture production decreased to an average of 80,000 arrobas per caballeria from some 92,000 which had been reached in the previous harvest. Because of this reduced production, engineer Jacinto Campos, director of the Cuba Libre complex, in Pedro Betancourt Municipality, Matanzas Province, told Cuba's National News Agency [AIN] the low amount was due to the winnowing out by previous harvests, the amount of rain, and the late harvest which prevented any corrective measures from taking place.

MACHADO, DELEGATION ARRIVE IN USSR FROM GDR

FL071128 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] A delegation of the Communist Party of Cuba headed by Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura has arrived in Moscow, capital of the USSR, on a working visit. This visit is part of the fraternal cooperation that exists between the communist parties of the two nations. The program of activities provides for meetings on cooperation between the two political organizations, and a visit to the Soviet Socialist Republic of Georgia.

The Cuban delegation traveled to Moscow from Berlin, where the top GDR leader, Erich Honecker, received Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, who gave him fraternal greetings from First Secretary of the Party and President of the Councils of State and Ministers Fidel Castro. Honecker and Machado Ventura expressed their support of the proposals of the USSR to safeguard international peace and prevent nuclear war. They denounced the militaristic course of the United States.

JUSTICE DELEGATION RECEIVED BY USSR'S ARKHIPOV

FL051516 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1405 GMT 5 Jun 84

[Text] In Moscow, Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, today received the Cuban delegation headed by Justice Minister Juan Escalona Reguera. During the talks, in which Boris Kravtsov, minister of justice of the Soviet Union, and Luis Felipe Vazquez, an official of the Cuban diplomatic mission, also participated, topics of mutual interest in the juridical field were discussed.

FIRST NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT DAY CELEBRATED

FL061302 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] Jaime Crombet, member of the party Secretariat, presided over the closing ceremony of the first National Environment Day [Jornada Nacional del Medio Ambiente] which was held in Santa Clara with the participation of more than 600 delegates and guests. Faustino Perez, Central Committee member, spoke of the progress in environmental protection achieved in Cuba and highlighted Villa Clara's efficient work in that respect. Faustino Perez stated that the protection and rational exploitation of the irreplaceable gift that natural resources represent are the concern, interest, and goal of the revolution.

WORLD FOOD PROGRAM APPROVES DAIRY PROJECT

PA070404 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] In its 17th session in Rome, the World Food Program Subcommittee approved Cuba's plan to develop the Jimaguayu Basin dairy project in the Province of Camaguey. The World Food Program will contribute $35 million to the project. Cuba submitted the plan in 1983 to the World Food Program, an organization that was established in 1982 to provide food aid to developing countries and to promote their economic and social development. The Cuban Government is supposed to be donated 20,200 metric tons of powered skimmed milk and 6,200 metric tons of butter in a 3-year period. The $35 million in aid represents 29.5 percent of the total cost of the Cuban project, which will be over $135,240,000 million. [figures as heard]

CEMA COMMISSION HOLDS TIRE, RUBBER MEETING

FL041632 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] The sixth meeting of the Tire and Rubber Articles Section of the CEMA Permanent Commission on the Chemical Industry will begin today at the Hotel Atlantico, in Santa Maria del Mar, in Havana. Delegations from nine countries will be present. During the session a broad agenda of topics dealing with cooperation in this field will be discussed and talks will be held on various aspects of cooperation and mutual interest.

Meeting Opens

FL051753 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Jun 84

[Text] The sixth meeting of the CEMA Section on Tires and Rubber Articles for the Chemical Industry has begun its working sessions at the Atlantic Hotel in Santa Maria del Mar. Participating in the meeting are delegations from eight [as heard] countries. The meeting is scheduled to end next Friday. Hector Casals, chief of the Cuban delegation to the CEMA Permanent Commission for Cooperation in the Chemical Industry, made the opening remarks, noting the importance of the meeting. Basic Industry Minister Marcos Portal, alternate member of the Central Committee, attended the opening session.

CEMA MEETING ON FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE OPENS

FL051759 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Jun 84

[Text] The CEMA representatives' 10th meeting on foot-and-mouth disease began yesterday. Dr Ramon Ortiz, director general of the Institute of Veterinary Medicine, noted in his opening remarks that it was high honor for Cuba to host this meeting for the first time, which commits us to achieve superior results.

ALMEIDA PRESIDES AT MUSEUM INAUGURATION

FL021251 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] In Trinidad, Commander of the Revolution Juan Almeida, member of the Politburo, has presided at the inauguration of the National Museum of the Struggle Against Bandits. The main speech was made by Division General Raul Menendez Tomassevich, member of the party Central Committee, who noted the people's heroism during that period of intense class struggle to preserve the revolution's gains since its triumph, a time during which the internal reactionary forces and Yankee imperialism hopelessly attempted to overthrow the revolutionary government.

Also present at the ceremony were Armando Hart Davalos, member of the Politburo and minister of culture, and Commander Omar Cabezas, chief of the Nicaraguan Interior Ministry Political Directorate and representative of the Sandinist Front, who also participated in a meeting with veterans of the struggle against bandits.

NEW AMBASSADOR TO MOZAMBIQUE DESIGNATED

FL021413 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] Cuba's Council of State has designated Manuel Torres Muniz ambassador to the People's Republic of Mozambique. At the time of his appointment, Comrade Torres Muniz was vice president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation.

CORRESPONDENT ANALYZES SHULTZ VISIT TO MANAGUA

PA071836 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Jun 84

["Chronicle" by Francisco Urizarri, PRELA correspondent in Nicaragua]

[Text] Although Managua extended its hand in the search for peace, every day there are more people who think that all Washington wanted with Shultz' visit to Nicaragua was to strengthen its position in Congress and pull an electoral publicity stunt. The meeting between Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, and Reagan's representative, George Shultz, has recently been a priority topic in the media throughout the world.

The visit by the highest ranking U.S. official to arrive in Nicaragua since the overthrow of the Somozist dictatorship brought about much expectation throughout the continent, and some commented that the White House had given the first sign of a change in its Central American policy. Without wanting to be negative, there are enough signs that refute each comment, and they were also rejected by U.S. spokesman Larry Speakes, who set those with false hopes straight when he said that Shultz' visit to Managua did not imply any change in the U.S. policy toward Nicaragua. The truth is that there was no need for such an explanation because although the Ortega-Shultz talk laid a little groundwork for subsequent contacts, such as the appointment of representatives by each of the parties for a dialogue, Managua journalistic circles view this as a new trick by the Reagan administration.

We don't have to go too far. Let's look at the following example: This week the U.S. Congress will discuss the granting of $21 million to the CIA to continue its war of aggression against Nicaragua. The bill, rejected by the House of Representatives, also found adversaries in the Senate among certain prominent Democrats. However, since Shultz' trip we have been observing a decrease in the criticism of these opposition sectors. This reflects the ability with which the White House is playing its cards, particularly in regard to the effective propaganda being carried out in the United States to present those who oppose its Central American policy as people responsible for possible difficulties in the national security of the United States. For this reason, the Managua talks could become a great success for Reagan in the Senate with the approval of his $21 million for the counterrevolutionary cause. But the Potomac government is going beyond that and is getting ready first for the battle in the House of Representatives, where it is seeking the approval of these millions and, what is more important, making this trip a factor that will help its electoral campaign, presenting itself as an administration that does not rule out negotiation to try to solve the main international conflicts.

If the Managua contact fails, the propaganda campaign will still be carried out, presenting Reagan as a promoter of dialogue and the Sandinists as those who caused its failure. Without much Democratic Party pressure, Reagan's electoral team is building its game with a view to the November elections and is trying to cover with ambiguities and false negotiating stands the undeclared war it has been waging against the Sandinist people's revolution and the Salvadoran guerrillas.

EXPERT, PRAVDA CITED ON U.S. C.A. POLICY

PA070524 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] Michael Klare, an expert on military affairs at the U.S. Institute for Policy Studies [Instituto de Estudios Politicos], has said that the United States is ready to launch a massive intervention in Central America in August or September. He added that thousands of U.S. soldiers will be in Honduras by then. He also referred to the current U.S. military presence in Honduras and to the series of landing strips that have been built along the Honduran-Salvadoran border for U.S. aircraft.

Meanwhile, the Soviet newspaper PRAVDA reported that the situation in Central America is extremely tense and that Washington is resorting to its traditional tactic of throwing people against people to obtain its objectives. PRAVDA also said that Honduras has been turned into an arsenal for attacking the Nicarguan people, Salvadoran organizations, and everyone that does not submit to U.S. interests.

More on U.S. Scholar's Charges

FL071344 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] The United States is on the threshold of an extensive intervention in Central America, according to Michael Klare, an expert from the U.S. Institute for Policy Studies. This scientist and author of several books on militarism in the United States has warned that the White House may decide to take this dangerous step before the November elections. Klare said this decision could be made in August or September, when many thousands of U.S. soldiers will have been deployed in Honduras. The expert coincided with other specialists in saying that, with the present "Grenadier 1" maneuvers, the United States is rehearsing the large-scale invasion of El Salvador and Nicaragua.

More on PRAVDA Remarks

FL061635 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] The Soviet newspaper PRAVDA today said the Central American situation has reached a seriously dangerous point because Washington is employing its usual tactics of creating confrontations between nations to achieve its goals. Honduras, PRAVDA said, has not only been transformed into an arsenal for attacks against Nicaragua, but also for attacks against the Salvadoran patriots and all who subject themselves to Washington's policies. [as heard]

FRG PAPER QUOTES AGEE ON U.S. PLANS IN C.A.

PA071508 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Former CIA member Phillip Agee has told the West German newspaper ROTE BLATTER that the United States has concentrated a large quantity of weapons with a view to a direct intervention in Nicaragua. Agee said that the U.S. Defense Department has created all the conditions to put approximately 30,000 troops on alert within 24 hours and begin war operations against the Sandinist revoltuion. To implement these plans, he added, the government of Ronald Reagan is giving an important role to countries under its control such as El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica.

COMMENTARY VIEWS CHALLENGES FACING DUARTE

PA070602 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 5 Jun 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] In a ceremony characterized by ostentatious military display, Jose Napoleon Duarte, the Christian Democratic Party presidential candidate, was inaugurated last Friday as the president of El Salvador. A large U.S. delegation led by Secretary of State George Shultz and Guatemalan Head of State General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores both attended Duarte's inauguration. Also present were Harry Shlaudeman, U.S. roving ambassador for Central America, and the foreign ministers of the four Latin American countries that comprise the Contadora Group.

After receiving the residential sash, Jose Napoleon Duarte delivered a speech in which he stressed that he will not negotiate with the Salvadoran guerrillas until they put down their arms.

One has only to look at the U.S. officials who were at Duarte's inauguration to realize the great importance that Washington attaches to this new episode that is just beginning in El Salvador, with Duarte as head of state, a post he is holding for the second time in 2 years. The White House has not concealed its intention of trying to produce a radical change in the political image of El Salvador's domestic situation, particularly in issues related to human rights. With Jose Napoleon Duarte, Washington will try to improve the Salvadoran Government's poor image, in a country where the Army and paramilitary groups have slain thousands of civilians in recent years. The United States is also trying to increase its military presence in this Central American country in a more active but more balanced way, with definite strategic objectives, according to what Pentagon spokesmen have recently said.

On the domestic front, the new head of state will face many challenges: to rule a country torn by war and a bankrupt economy, to control a military clique whose greed for power increases daily, and to restrain the selfishness of an extremely conservative business sector; these are some of the problems that Duarte must face. But the most important are the Contadora Group's efforts to obtain a political solution and the FMLN's permanent offer of dialogue as a formula for national peace and social justice and as a way of solving the abuses committed by the Salvadoran Armed Forces against the population.

The new president's cabinet contains his closest advisers and Christian Democratic Party leaders. The Christian Democrat Party defeated the extreme rightist Nationalist Republican Alliance [ARENA] led by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, who has been accused of being the leader of the death squads.

It is hard to believe that Jose Napoleon Duarte seriously plans to work for peace in El Salvador. The first thing that he should do, if this is truly his intention, is to begin negotiations with the guerrilla force. In this respect, FDR President Guillermo Manuel Ungo has said that the crisis cannot be solved without negotiations with the revolutionary organizations. Ungo also said that there are two governments and two armies in El Salvador: the guerrillas and the government. He added that Jose Napoleon Duarte's government will be the government of those who have always controlled political life in El Salvador. Ungo referred to the repressive climate that prevailed during the elections and said that only 50 percent of the population went to the polls. This can give you an idea of how many people really support the Duarte administration, because we all know that Duarte is an instrument of U.S. imperialism.

FMLN, FDR ACCEPT COSTA RICAN MEDIATION

FL071252 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] The FMLN and FDR of El Salvador have reaffirmed their willingness to talk and denounced the recently formed Salvadoran Government. Salvador Samayoa, Ana Guadalupe Martinez, and Ruben Zamora, representing the FMLN and FDR, met in San Jose with Acting Costa Rican President Alberto Fait Lizano. The Salvadoran revolutionary leaders expressed their acceptance of Costa Rica as mediator of the Salvadoran conflict. The delegation spoke of the importance of establishing a dialogue in El Salvador without any preconditions and described as absurd and not serious the prerequisite imposed by the Salvadoran president, Jose Napoleon Duarte, when Costa Rican President Alberto Monge offered to serve as mediator. Statements by Duarte that the FMLN must lay down its arms before negotiating were interpreted by the delegation members as part of an obstinate policy oriented inevitably towards the prolongation of the conflict.

COMMENTARY NOTES HONDURANS RESISTANCE TO U.S.

PA071718 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 6 Jun 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] An intensified repudiation of the U.S. military presence in Honduras was reflected in a demonstration staged by approximately 30,000 people who marched along downtown Tegucigalpa streets to protest the government's decision to increase taxes. The regime's measure responds to IMF pressure as a condition for new multimillion dollar loans to help alleviate the economic and financial crisis of Honduras, the poorest and most backward Central American country.

The predominantly labor march was called for by the United Federation of Honduran Workers, the General Workers Confederation, and the Central Federation of Free Workers Union of Honduras.

In addition to shouting slogans against the new taxes, the demonstrators demanded that the whereabouts of 115 missing people be explained. They also demanded the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Honduras. Marines get out of Honduras; no to war and yes to peace; and we do not want war planes, we want bread were some of the march slogans.

The mass demonstration took place simultaneously with the second phase of the "Grenadier I" maneuvers involving more than 15,000 Honduran, U.S., and Salvadoran troops that are taking place in Honduras. The military exercises are being carried out in the southwestern area of Honduras. According to military sources, social assistance tasks are being implemented in that area; however, this is nothing more than a coverup to carry out psychological warfare against the local residents.

Nevertheless, the people are not easily deceived. National Union of Peasants leaders said that giving away a pair of shoes or extracting a peasant's tooth does not solve the area's main problem which is the lack of land to work on.

The Honduran people have more than enough reasons to repudiate the U.S. military presence in that country. Yankee soldiers have carried infectious diseases to Honduras, many of them not previously known in that country. The death of a U.S. and two Salvadoran soldiers from hemorrhagic dengue was reported in the hospital of the Regional Training Center in Puerto Castilla. In Comayagua, in the Honduran central region, it was reported that two Honduran civilians are suffering from AIDS, a disease not previously known in Honduras but very common among U.S. troops. The afflicted people acquired their diseases through relations with U.S. troops stationed at the Palmerola Military Base, the headquarters of the "Grenadier I" maneuvers. The venereal disease known as Vietnam flower has also been detected in Honduras. This is a very resistant variety of syphilis carried by U.S. soldiers who took part in the U.S. war against the Vietnamese people.

The recent protest demonstration staged in Tegucigalpa, which involved 30,000 people, is another sign of the increasing rejection by the Honduran people of the U.S. military presence in the country.

REPORT SAYS 3,400 GUATEMALANS KILLED IN FEBRUARY

FL071204 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] More than 3,400 persons were victims of the repression prevailing in Guatemala during the month of February 1984. The Guatemalan Human Rights Commission says that the single most important action taken by the Guatemalan Army against the population during February was the murder of 100 peasants in Santiago Ixcan, a rural town located in the Department of Quiche.

The detailed report states that it contains only cases reported by family members of the victims or confirmed by the Guatemalan Human Rights Commission, and that such cases represent only 25 percent of the total.

Among the cases reported are 105 individual extrajudicial executions, more than 100 collective extrajudicial executions, and nearly 160 cases of persons who were kidnapped and never seen again.

PRESIDENT SEEKS ECONOMIC CONSENSUS WITH LEADERS

FL071324 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 30 May pp 1, 13

[By Maximo Manuel Perez]

[Excerpts] President Salvador Jorge Blanco yesterday continued to personally meet with Dominican leaders and newspaper directors seeking a consensus "on ways to overcome the present economic crisis and on what contributions each political, religious, labor union, industrial and professional sector or group could make toward reaching this goal." Jorge Blanco's talks yesterday revolved around the economic crisis and IMF negotiations, as had his talks with opposition and Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] political leaders on Monday.

On Monday, the president met with retired General Elias Wessin y Wessin, president of the Quisqueyan Democratic Party [PQD]; Dr Vinicio Castillo, president of the Progressive National Force [FNP]; Hector Aristy from the 24 April Movement; Fernando Alvarez Bogaert from the Reformist Party (PR); and Dr Fernando Sanchez Martinez, rector of the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo. President Jorge Blanco also met with Jacobo Majluta, president of the Senate; Dr Hugo Tolentino Dipp, president of the Chamber of Deputies; and Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, PR leader and mayor of Santo Domingo, Federal District.

At each meeting, Jorge Blanco remained firm on his position toward the foreign debt situation and the expenditures which the government must make this year to pay the country's petroleum bill. He also discussed the need for "action taken in consensus" toward the required measures in facing the economic crisis and IMF imposed conditions to obtain the 2d year of extended terms agreement. It was reported that at yesterday's meetings, Secretary to the Presidency Hatuey Decamps and Technical Secretary Orlando Haza gave explanations on these matters.

The president was pleased at the receptivity which was shown and thanked each of the leaders for their interest in searching for a solution to the economic problems.

Jorge Blanco will continue the meetings and today will meet with newspaper directors Virgilio Alcantara from HOY, Mario Alvarez Dugan from EL NACIONAL, Anibal de Castro from ULTIMA HORA, and Silvio Herasme Pena from LA NOTICIA.

IPS: GOVERNMENT NOT EXPECTED TO END IMF TIES

WA081461 Rome IPS in English 4 Jun 84

[Text] Santo Domingo, June 4 (IPS) -- Despite its fierce disagreements, the Dominican Republic is not expected to break definitively with the International Monetary Fund, analysts here feel. Relations between the two have been at a low ebb since President Jorge Blanco broke off negotiations with the international lending body three weeks ago, saying its conditions for continued lending would impose undue social hardship.

Opposition forces, especially the "left front," are urging the government to abandon efforts to secure the loan, and to adopt a more self-reliant economic strategy. But few government officials think this is practicable. Blanco spent last week in a round of meetings with other political leaders and prominent media personalities, discussing the stalemate with the IMF. Although little has emerged from these talks, it appears the president is seeking to build a consensus around his decision to keep channels to the IMF open, rather than make an open break.

The dispute centers around a $450 million extended fund facility. The first tranche of the loan was disbursed last year, but the IMF is demanding stiffer austerity measures in return for a second disbursement now. The major problem has been the Dominican Government's reluctance to pay for all imports with pesos bought on the free market, at three to the U.S. dollar, rather than at the official rate, which is one to one. When Blanco relented on this issue for most imports last April, the consequent leap in prices sparked major rioting, which left over 100 people dead, and thousands in jail.

The government is still refusing to make oil imports with free market pesos, however, and the IMF is refusing to continue lending to this Caribbean nation until it changes this policy. Paying for oil with free market pesos "would provoke a social revolution," according to Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, leader of the ruling Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD). And the government, pointing to last April's disturbances, is asking the IMF for more understanding of its predicament. Officials say that the system of paying for oil imports will have to be changed some time, but only when wage earners are in a position to cope with the price rises that would follow. To do it now would be suicidal, they argue.

With a $3 billion foreign debt, and severe economic difficulties, the government sees no viable alternative to maintaining relations with the IMF, hoping to modify the terms of its loan, and thus encouraging private banks to keep lending. The example of nearby Jamaica, which tried to go it alone after then Prime Minister Michael Manley broke with the IMF in 1980, and found itself unable to raise sufficient money elsewhere, is doubtless fresh in Dominican officials' memories. But it remains to be seen whether Blanco can persuade his constituency that the IMF is really the only alternative, or whether he can convice the Fund to relax its conditions on the loan.

THIRD LARGEST SUGAR EXPORTER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED

FL061436 Bridgetown CANA in English 0927 GMT 6 Jun 84

[Text] Santo Domingo, June 6 (CANA-REUTER) -- The Domincian Republic said today it had suspended the export licence of the country's third-biggest sugar producer, the Vicini Consortium, on an alleged foreign currency violation involving 40 million dollars. It also impounded a 22,000 tonne sugar shipment belonging to Vicini.

Under Dominican law, exporters must hand over the dollars they earn to the Central Bank which changes them into pesos at a rate of 1.48 to the dollar. Financial sources said many firms preferred to keep their foreign exchange rather than have it converted into pesos, albeit at the Central Bank's favourable rate.

A government statement said that Vicini export licence would remain suspended until the company remits 40 million dollars in foreign exchange to the Central Bank. Vicini produces 60,000 to 80,000 tonnes of the Dominican Republic's annual 1.1 million tonne sugar output.

The export promotion department said it was currently taking action against 211 firms for similar alleged violations.

DATES GIVEN FOR BURNHAM'S CHINA, BULGARIA TRIP

FL292134 Bridgetown CANA in English 2039 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, May 29 (CANA) -- The Office of President Forbes Burnham announced today the dates of his trips next month to China and Bulgaria. Burnham will be in Bulgaria from June 6-10 and China from June 11-15.

"Invitations to those countries and the visits themselves are seen as positive indications of the growing desire for closer cooperation between Guyana and those states and of the importance which is attached to the strengthening of relations with them," the statement from the President's Office said.

"The visits will provide an opportunity for President Burnham to exchange views with his Bulgarian and Chinese counterparts on a wide range of international, political and economic issues," the statement goes on.

The trips to the communist countries will take place at a time when financial assistance to Guyana is drying up from Western countries and Western-backed financial institutions, because of failure to reach a loan agreement with the International Monetary Fund. Burnham indicated last week-end his country will look more and more to the socialist bloc for aid.

CANADIAN, YUGOSLAV FIRMS TO MINE IN ESSEQUIBO

FL072038 Bridgetown CANA in English 2005 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 7 (CANA) -- A Canadian and a Yugoslav firm which have been granted permission to mine gold and diamonds in Guyana's vast mineral-rich Mazaruni area, in the disputed Essequibo county, are planning to begin operations shortly, a spokesman for the Ministry of Energy and Mines said. Southern Star Resources Limited, the Canadian firm, has signed a three-year agreement to explore for gold and diamonds. It plans to begin work by the middle of July, the spokesman said. Rudis, the Yugoslav firm, entered into an agreement last November for the development of a gold mining project. Work on access roads to the region has been halted by heavy rains. The Essequibo region is claimed by Venezuela.

YUGOSLAVIA TO AID DAIRY PLANT DEVELOPMENT

FL071800 Bridgetown CANA in English 1642 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 7 (CANA) -- Yugoslavia has approved a grant of 1.1 million dollars (1 Guy dollar; 27 cents U.S.) to rehabilitate a milk plant here, a government official said.

"The grant has been approved from the Solidarity Fund with Nonaligned and Developing Countries and will be used to purchase, transport, and install equipment needed for the milk plant," Dr Steve Surujbally, director of the National Dairy Development Programme said.

He said Yugoslavia's Emona Engineering Company would arrange for the purchase and installation of the equipment which includes several pieces of machinery, pumps, and spare parts. A team of officials from the company is due here shortly.

"This latest assistance from Yugoslavia is part of an ongoing programme of cooperation with Guyana," Surujbally said. Earlier this year Guyana received a gift of 8.5 tonnes of full cream milk powder from Yugoslavia which was used by the milk plant in the northern outskirts of the city of Georgetown.

OLYMPICS PARTICIPATION NOT VIEWED HARMFUL TO USSR TIES

FL072152 Bridgetown CANA in English 2050 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 7 (CANA) -- Guyana, which is sending a team to the July Olympic Games, says it does not expect its relations with the Soviet Union, which is boycotting the championships, to be effected.

"Guyana's participation in the Olympic Games should be seen in the context of Guyana's belief that the international Olympic movement can play a significant role towards promoting world peace and friendship among various countries and peoples," Sports Minister Roy Fredericks said in a written statement. The former test batsman said that Guyana -- a socialist country -- was confident that its participation would not affect its relations with the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union supported by some of its allies, has decided to stay away from the games in Los Angeles because of its concern for the security of its athletes.

Guyana has selected a 10-member team for the Olympics. Referring to the Olympic movements's role in promoting world peace and friendship, Fredericks said the movement's ability to remain as a cohesive mechanism in spite of tremendous difficulties of all kinds was testimony of it being "one of mankind's hopes of great future."

DELEGATIONS NAMED TO ILO CONFERENCE IN GENEVA

FL072030 Bridgetown CANA in English 1635 GMT 7 Jun 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 7 (CANA) -- Minister of Cooperatives and Manpower Kenneth Denny will head Guyana's delegation to the 70th session of the International Labour Conference (ILO) in Geneva from June 6 to 27.

General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress (TUC) Joseph Pollydore will represent the labour movement while the employers organisation, the Consultative Association of Guyanese Industry (CAGI) will be represented by Secretary Cecil Outridge. The delegation also includes deputy chief labour officer Zameer Majid. Discussions will include the formulation and implementation of international labour standards, revision of a recommendation on employment policy, revision of a convention on statistics of wages and hours of work and the adoption of instruments to cover occupational health services, the government official said.

PARAGUAY

LAWYERS HELD BY POLICE FOR 1 MONTH RELEASED

PY071405 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 7 Jun 84 p 9

[Text] Lawyers Mario Milciades Melgarejo, Celso Castillo, and Dario Veron, who were under arrest at the second police precinct, were released yesterday at approximately 1900.

Melgarejo told HOY that he had been taken from the second precinct to the Interior Ministry where he had a talk with the interior minister. He also talked with Campos Alum [director of the Bureau for Communist Repression]. The two, Castillo and Veron -- according to what Melgarejo told HOY -- also had a talk with Campos Alum.

Melgarejo said that they were not told why they had been arrested.

Melgarejo, Castillo, and Veron had been arrested and held incommunicado for approximately a month. They had been arrested on 11 May 1984 and taken to the second precinct, where they were held until their release yesterday evening.

Melgarejo said that during the time they were imprisoned they had been "very well treated." The lawyer said that "the three of us were held in the same cell, which had optimum sanitary and hygienic conditions, and we were very well treated all the time."

PERU

35 SHINING PATH MEMBERS KILLED IN CLASH

PY072018 Paris AFP in Spanish 1524 GMT 7 May 84

[Text] Lima, 7 Jun (AFP) -- The police reported here today that 35 members of the Shining Path, including 11 women, were killed and several more were injured in a clash with anti-subversive forces in Vinchos, 45 km south of Ayacucho, on Wednesday, 6 June.

The clash took place when an Army and police patrol caught approximately 100 subversives and the Arizona Restaurant in the hamlet of Ninobamba, where they were planning an attack on Ayacucho, the source revealed.

After the flight, in which an unspecified number of military men also wounded, many subversives managed to escape toward the highlands.

Meanwhile a terrorist command used slings to chrow dynamite sticks at a station of the Investigative Police (plainclothesmen) in the district of Chiara, 28 km southeast of Ayacucho. No information has been released on possible casualties.